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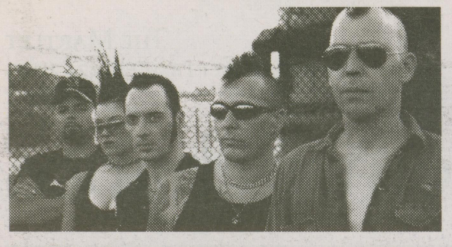

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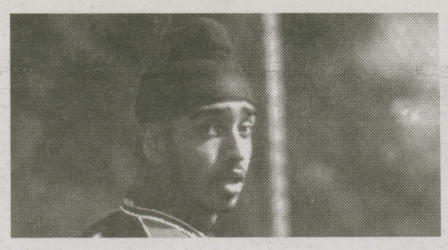

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Going home with total strangers we met at seedy nightclubs for 58 years.

MARTLET

Thursday, September 22, 2005 | The University of Victoria's Independent Newspaper | www.martlet.ca | Volume 58, Issue 7

the HOOK UP

Is Dating Dead?

PAGES 10 & 11

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SURF EXPRESS

Liberals give STV another chance

by Ed Pullman

Concerned citizens gathered outside the legislature Sept. 13 to voice their tentative support for the Liberals' decision to hold a second referendum on the Single Transferable Vote (STV).

The groups, including Fair Vote Canada, Fair Voting BC, and two members of the Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform, responded to the throne speech given the day before, in which the Liberal government had committed to pursue the issue of electoral reform.

Bruce Hallsor, president of Fair Voting BC, summed up the renewed enthusiasm of the pro-STV faction, saying, "We've got three years to get that last two per cent."

The first provincial referendum was held in May, when voters were asked, "Should British Colombia change to the BC-STV electoral system as recommended by the Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform?" (See sidebar)

A "yes" vote of 60 per cent province-wide would have seen the abandonment of B.C.'s current system, known as Single Member Plurality (SMP). The proposal was narrowly defeated with just 57.4 per cent support.

"Nearly 58 per cent of those who voted in the May referendum voted in favour of STV, but the new model did not pass under the rules the legislature unanimously established," said Premier Gordon Campbell of his government's decision. "Suggestions have been made that the outcome might have been different if voters were aware of how the STV would apply to their riding boundaries. We're not going to rewrite the rules after the fact or pretend that the vote succeeded when it did not, but neither can we ignore the size of the double majority that voted in favour of the STV model."

The government's new plan, therefore, is to ask the Electoral Boundaries Commission to consider how ridings will be configured under an STV system while they do their regular review of boundaries for the 2009 provincial election.

New funding for public education is being provided equally to both proponents and detractors of each electoral model, and a second, binding referendum on the STV system will be held in November 2008. If STV emerges the victor it will be implemented for the 2009 provincial election.

WENDY BERGERUD PHOTO

Campaigners in favour of the BC-STV electoral system gathered outside the legislature Sept. 13 to discuss the issues surrounding a second referndum.

But despite the atmosphere of approval towards the government's action to continue the debate on BC-STV, speakers also expressed their resentment at the lack of education given to voters about STV prior to the election, and the imposed 60 per cent majority required for BC-STV to pass.

"Major referendums in this country have been 50 per cent plus one, so this is an unfair boundary put in place," said Gordon Neuls, a member-at-large of Fair Vote Canada.

Diana Byford, a former member of the Citizens' Assembly, brought up concerns about the efficacy of the newly-allotted public education dollars.

"I sincerely hope the funding for education on the two systems will be used wisely," she said.

Wendy Bergerud, one of Byford's fellow assembly members, echoed her colleague's skepticism.

"We will speak with the electoral commission about our primary goal: Education about STV," she said. "We feel very little was done to inform the populace about it."

The common attitude expressed by all, however, was the universality of the demand for electoral reform among all political ideologies.

"We're from all over the spectrum and we're working hard," said Neuls.

STV BROKEN DOWN

The Single Transferable Vote (STV) is an electoral voting system that the Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform claims produces fairer election results than the current system, Single Member Plurality (SMP).

The Citizens' Assembly was a group of randomly selected volunteer citizens who spent a year learning about various electoral systems and decided to recommend a referendum on adopting STV in 2004. Some of the key differences between STV and SMP are:

-Electoral districts are enlarged in size and reduced in number, meaning that several MLAs are elected to one riding.

-Voters rank candidates in order of preference instead of choosing only one candidate.

-Candidates will require a certain number of votes (a quota) to be elected. If no candidates reach that number, the candidate with the lowest number of votes is dropped and their votes are transferred to the voter's next preference. This process is repeated until all seats in the riding are filled.

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UVic welcomes Katrina's refugees

Students displaced from Louisiana find refuge at Canadian universities

by Megan Stewart

MEGAN STEWART PHOTO

Emmy Aguinaga begins her fall semester at UVic and will return to Tulane University in New Orleans for the spring semester. Hurricane Katrina devastated the Louisiana city on Aug. 29.

With her clothes tucked away and her dorm room furnished, Emmy Aguinaga turned her back on the first days of her first year at Tulane University.

The 17-year-old freshman drove out of New Orleans on Aug. 27, two days before Hurricane Katrina stormed the Louisiana coast, bursting strained levees, challenging the emergency response of a nation, and exposing racial and class divides in the Big Easy.

That day, Tulane's president, Scott Cowen, delivered a different speech than the welcome the freshman class had gathered to hear the weekend before classes were scheduled to start.

"He basically said that the hurricane was growing and we had to leave, but that we'd be back in class Monday to restart orientation," recalled Aguinaga, who fled to Wyoming with her roommate's family later that day.

Aguinaga was at Tulane on exchange from Ecuador when the late-August hurricane forced the evacuation of New Orleans and brought her temporarily to UVic and to Victoria, where she is now living with her sister.

"I just brought my clothes and some books I wanted [from Ecuador]," said Aguinaga. "I had to buy everything—from my bedspread to lamps—everything, everything. I had just gotten my [Tulane] ID card. I had to leave everything there."

An estimated 100,000 students from 30 colleges and universities were displaced during the evacuation and unable to begin September classes.

Along with most of the university body at Tulane, Aguinaga anticipated only a brief exit from New Orleans, but the fall semester has since been cancelled and students are scattered around classrooms throughout North America.

Jackson State University in Mississippi provided temporary shelter to 400 students. Montreal's McGill University received 200 inquiries in the three weeks after Katrina struck and has registered nine students, according to *The Globe and Mail*.

UVic received one inquiry in addition to Aguinaga's inquiry and temporary transfer. The Association of Universities and Colleges in Canada (AUCC) said more than 35 of its 90 members have pledged to make spaces available for displaced students and that some are waiving international student fees. Aguinaga received a $3,000 scholarship to UVic to help balance the cost of international tuition fees, which cost nearly $14,000 for her five first-year classes.

The damage to Tulane was extensive and the campus, like the city itself, is now focused on cleaning and re-establishing electricity, lines of communication, and clean, running water.

Because of the academic support offered to students and the trend among sheltering universities to waive tuition costs for student Katrina victims, Cowen wrote on his online message board Sept. 2 that he has "never been prouder than I am now to be in higher education.

"I am so indebted to my colleagues around the country for developing a plan that is both sensitive to the needs of our students and will also serve as a lifeline to those institutions dramatically affected," he wrote.

Aguinaga, while comfortable in B.C.'s capital, said she will not stay in Victoria once the university of her choice is open again.

"New Orleans is a city that is very compatible with my personality," she said. "It's a very eclectic city and I sensed it was laid back, but it had a very fast pace to it. Victoria is a kind of health city. I like it and I've met some interesting people, but I don't think I could live here because I'm a big-city girl. I need to live somewhere like New Orleans."

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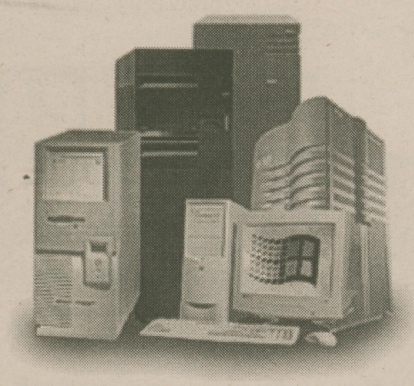

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Humanities receives new funding for Scottish studies

Former professor leaves over half a million dollars for creation of graduate scholarship, faculty fellowship

by Bryna Hallam

University of Victoria PhD candidate Susan Wilson grew up immersed in the mother tongue chatter of her grandparents. Natives of Scotland, they spoke to the young Wilson in both Scots and Gaelic.

It obviously impacted her—Wilson is now fluent in Gaelic and studying Scottish literature in the university's English department, something she says had made her a bit of an "oddity" in the department.

"My dream is that one day there may even be a Scottish studies department at UVic," she said.

That dream may be a step closer to reality with the creation of the Hugh Campbell and Marion Alice Small Fund for Scottish Studies. The fund was created from a $560,000 donation from former UVic professor Marion Alice Small, who passed away in 2003.

The gift, the largest ever single donation to the humanities, will support a faculty fellowship worth $3,000, a $10,000 graduate scholarship and an annual public lecture delivered to the St. Andrews and Caledonian Society of Victoria. The endowment will also provide for the acquisition of new materials by the McPherson Library to support Scottish studies.

"This will provide a tremendous opportunity for graduate students and UVic to be involved in the cultural vitality exploding throughout Scotland," said Wilson.

"The funds generated by this endowment will allow an ongoing commitment to Scottish studies to be an integral part of our current disciplinary offerings," said Dean of Humanities Dr. Andrew Rippin. "This gift will be of tremendous benefit to our faculty, our students and the community as a whole. The study of Scottish literature, thought, culture, society and history will become a focal point of activity here at the faculty of humanities as a result of this gift."

University president Dr. David Turpin echoed his sentiments, saying the gift "underscores the importance of humanities at the core of the university."

AARON MCMILLAN PHOTO

Members of the Canadian Scottish Regimental Pipe Band played at the announcement of the new Hugh Campbell and Marion Alice Small Fund for Scottish Studies.

Small taught art education at Victoria College and UVic, and had a teaching career that spanned more than 40 years. In 1959 she married Hugh Campbell Small, a native of Glasgow, and soon after joined the St. Andrews and Caledonian Society. Although she will not benefit from the new fund, Wilson is enthusiastic about the potential for the future.

"As we would say in Gaelic, 'Ta se go hiontach'—this is wonderful."

Lace up your running shoes to help end violence

by Kimberly Armstrong

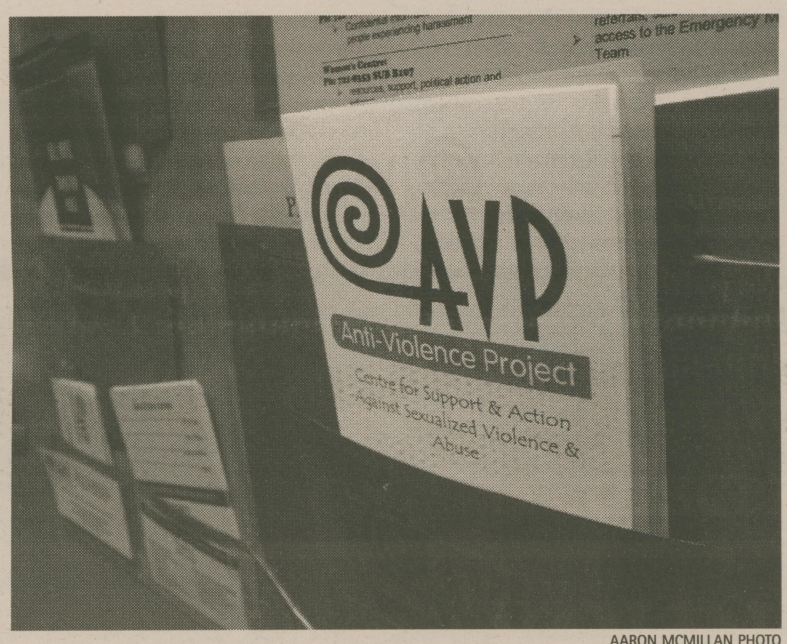
Students are invited to take a break from the books Sept. 25 to help raise money for the Anti-Violence Project (AVP).

AVP, UVic's centre for support and action against sexualized violence, is hosting a Fun Run/Walk to End Violence, and people of all ages and abilities are being encouraged to come out to walk or run Ring Road and pay a $12 registration fee that will go to benefit the project.

The event begins at 9 a.m. in Parking Lot One on the UVic campus, and participants can choose to take part in either a five-kilometre run or a 2.2-kilometre walk around campus. The band Elephant Island will provide entertainment.

Fun Run co-ordinator Tammie Jeppesen says the aim of the event is to get as many people from the community involved in and aware of AVP as possible.

"We're doing it because we want to do something positive," she said. "In the past we've done events like conferences, which are very focused on the issues, but that can be very intimidating for some people, so we wanted to do something anyone could take part in."



AARON MCMILLAN PHOTO

AVP is hosting its first Fun Run to End Violence on Sept. 25.

Jeppesen is optimistic about the number of students she hopes to see at the event.

"It's always hard to tell the first year, but we're hoping for a turnout of about 250," she said.

The Fun Run is open to anyone who wishes to participate, either in the run/walk or as a volunteer, whether they are from UVic or not, and people can register any time up until the morning of the event.

While the first three participants to cross the finish line in the Fun Run will receive trophies, the race is non-competitive and prizes will be awarded by draw. The grand prize is a one-night stay at the Harbour Towers Hotel, while the two runners-up will each win dinner for two at local hotels. As well, there is a wide selection of gift baskets and certificates.

Registration forms are available at the AVP office, located in the Student Union Building in room B027.

The Fun Run/Walk to End Violence is both a fund-raiser for the AVP and a way to raise awareness about sexual assault.

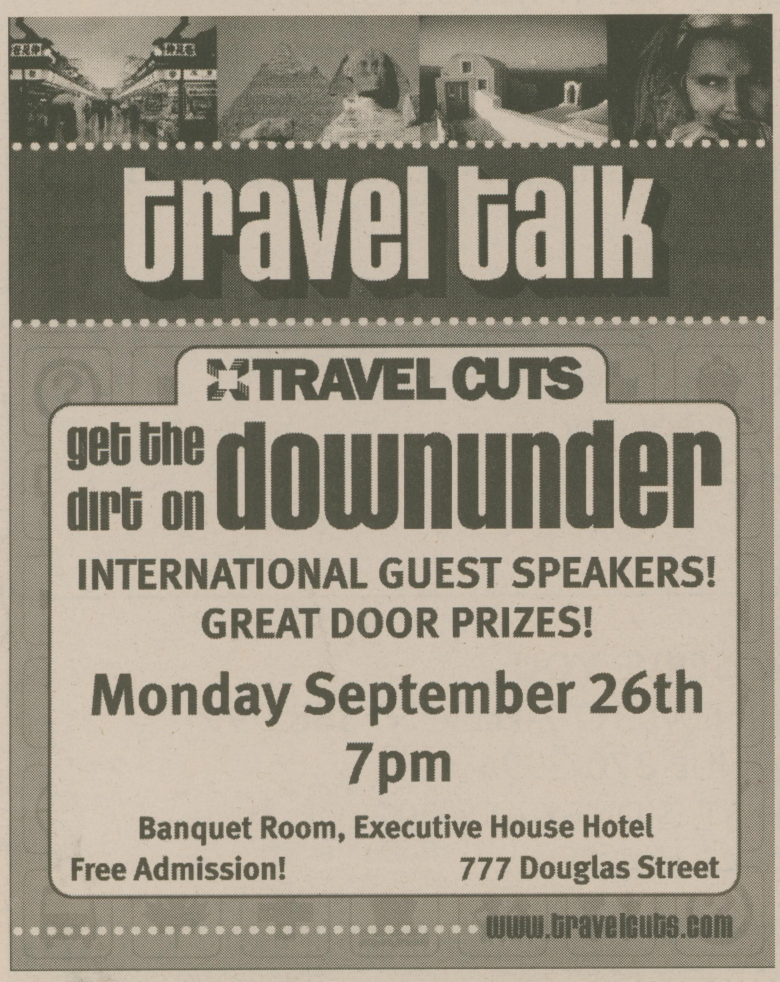
Sexual assault is defined as any form of sexual activity engaged in without the consent of both partners. A survey conducted at UVic in 1995 found that a sixth to a quarter of female students had experienced sexual assault while attending the university. There are fewer statistics available on male sexual assault, as men are less likely to come forward because they fear of being stigmatized.

According to Jeppesen, one of the most common forms of assault reported by students is date rape. Any drug that stops a person thinking clearly can allow an assault to take place. The most common date rape drug is alcohol, although two others are Rohypnol and GHB (also known as "liquid ecstasy").

Part of AVP's message to students, therefore, is to never leave drinks unattended and to keep an eye on friends at parties and bars. Excessive drunkenness, vomiting or blackouts may be signs that someone has been drugged.

Students interested in volunteering for the AVP are also encouraged to stop by the office, which relies on an Education Outreach Team to provide information and conduct seminars and workshops on sexual assault. Volunteer training sessions begin Sept. 22. Time commitment for volunteers is about two hours a week.

The AVP office also features a resource library that is open to any student for research or interest purposes. For more information about the AVP, go to http://www.uvss.uvic.ca/avp.



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Bet you wish you knew this then: where to get cheap texts

by Stevie Campbell

With the average UVic undergrad spending more than $2,000 on tuition per semester, many students may find themselves reconsidering that 8:30 a.m. course with nine required texts.

While there is no easy way to avoid the early wake-up, students will be glad to know there is an alternative to buying those texts brand new from the campus bookstore.

The alternative, of course, is to buy used texts. At the campus bookstore, used books are priced at a flat rate of 75 per cent of their cost new, and that can save students some serious bucks if they are able to buy all, or most, of their books secondhand.

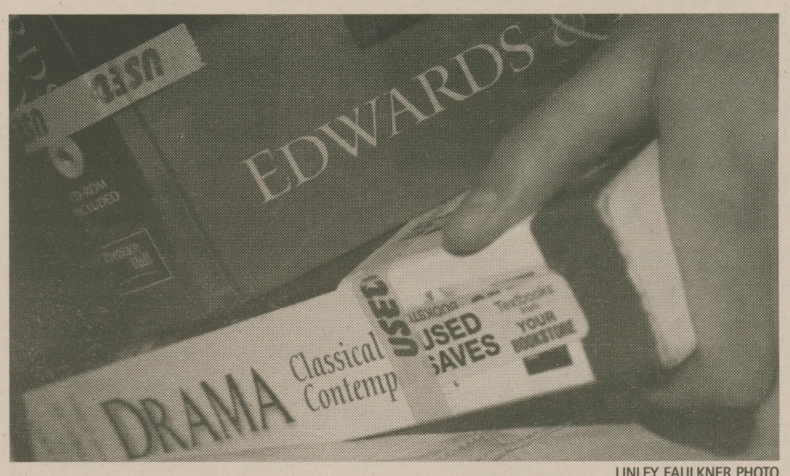
Unfortunately, there is a limited supply of used books, and popular texts sell quickly at the beginning of the semester. Many students who miss the used bonanza in late August believe this is the end of their savings journey.

What they do not know could save them a lot of dough.

The other bookstore on campus, Subtext, is located in the Student Union Building and is owned and operated by the UVic Students' Society. Subtext deals strictly in used texts and operates on a consignment basis.

Students can bring their textbooks into the store and decide what price to sell their books at using Subtext's shelf pricing as well as the used booklist price from the main bookstore.

"When they sell their book they get 75 per cent of the sale and . . . any money we make goes back into the students' union, so we're a not-for-profit bookstore, which pays for more services and facilities," said Subtext manager Norm Foote.



LINLEY FAULKNER PHOTO

You can save on textbooks—if you know where to look.

Subtext advises their consigners not to set their price higher than the 75 per cent charged at the main bookstore.

"Ten different texts could have 10 different prices, because it's based on what the consigner wishes to get for the book," said Foote. He adds that "most of the consigners will go 75 per cent or below [the price of the new book]."

Another option for finding used books is the web. It is worthwhile to search the big name retailers, such as Chapters.ca, for deals on new texts. The real savings, though, are found with online retailers selling used texts.

Abe.com, for example, displays the inventories of more than 12,000 independent booksellers, including Subtext.

Students using Abe.com can expect a large inventory and a range of prices based on supply and demand.

And for those of you cursing the tardiness of this information, keep in mind that the second semester book crunch is a mere three months away.

Sudanese refugee finds safe place to study at UVic

Students asked to increase support for Student Refugee Program by 50 cents through student fees

by Sarah Towle

When Jok Gai heard about a program that would allow him to study in Canada, free from political conflict, he jumped at the chance.

Gai, who was born in Southern Sudan, grew up in a heated war zone. The predominately Christian south has been fighting against oppression from the Muslim north since May 1983, when Gai was just two years old.

"My family and I have always been on a run to find safety," said Gai. "We could no longer do farming and the hunger was invasive." Gai and his family fled to Kenya when he was 14 and began living in a refugee camp.

Life in Kenya was a struggle for Gai and his family as they faced the hardship of being separated from their other family members, still in Sudan, for 15 years.

It was in Kenya, however, that Gai found hope. He heard about a group called the World University Service of Canada (WUSC), which sponsors refugees to study in Canada.

He applied and was accepted to UVic this September as one of 45 student refugees who enter Canada every year to study as permanent residents with the Student Refugee Program.

Gai, who is pursing a Bachelor of Electrical Engineering, says there are drastic differences between his life in Kenya and life here.

"Here I go to school, while back home my colleagues hang out on the streets," said Gai. "Secondly, there is no fear of gunshots."

The UVic chapter of WUSC has been raising funds to help student refugees like Gai study at UVic for the past 14 years. This includes negotiating with UVic's administration to waive tuition and residence fees, and to donate other items.

UVic students also help support the program. Every undergraduate student pays 50 cents per semester through their UVSS student fees to fund the program. This enables UVic to support one student refugee every two years.

Other institutions, such as the University of Saskatchewan, support two to three student refugees every year.

"We are hoping that the UVic student body will support an initiative to increase the number of student refugees that UVic sponsors in an upcoming referendum," said Ashley Heaslip, UVic's WUSC co-ordinator. The referendum, scheduled for spring, will ask UVic students to vote on a 50 cent fee per semester increase that will go directly to support the Student Refugee Program.

"I want UVic students, faculty, staff, and other readers to know that there are many disadvantaged refugee youth out there unable to go to school due to the situation in their respective countries," said Gai. "The little contribution that students and university administration make here really adds value to the lives of these youths. It would be great should they find it convenient to go an extra mile to accommodate more . . . refugee student[s]."

To find out more about the Student Refugee Program, go to http://www.wusc.ca.

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FELICITA'S CAMPUS PUB

UVSS pushes for more gender-neutral bathrooms

by Micah Luxen

The UVic Students' Society (UVSS) is launching a campaign encouraging university administration to build more single-occupancy gender-neutral washrooms on campus.

While many buildings at UVic are already equipped with the facilities, the UVSS, in partnership with advocacy groups such as the Committee on Sexual and Gender Diversity, argue that installing more gender-neutral bathrooms will be a step towards destroying gender discrimination.

"Trans students and people who don't present themselves in a stereotypically gendered way often face whispers, awkward looks, comments and even violence when using either gendered washroom," said Penny Beames, UVSS chairperson.

Dr. Jean Bobby Noble, an assistant professor in the Department of Women's Studies specializing in gender and sexuality, agrees.

"Many go to great lengths to avoid [gendered] bathrooms, which is not just very uncomfortable but poses serious health risks," she said.

Campaign supporters argue single occupancy gender-neutral washrooms would provide these students with a safe space to use the washroom without having to conform to a gender category that doesn't fit with their own identity.

Gender-neutral bathrooms also provide clean, private spaces for students with medical requirements, such as diabetic students who need to inject insulin, as well as students who do not feel comfortable relieving themselves in a room with other people.

AARON MCMILLAN PHOTO

There are only a few gender-neutral bathrooms on campus, including this one in the Student Union Building.

Presently, gender-neutral bathrooms are in the SUB, the Clearihue Building, the David Strong Building, and on every floor of the new residences.

Although the UVSS does not have a meeting set up to discuss the bathrooms with the university's board of governors, they, along with the Committee on Sexual and Gender Diversity, are attacking the issue first by raising student awareness and getting advocacy groups on board.

"It will take wide-scale pressure on administration by staff, faculty, administrators, and students to draw attention to the fact that the current system is discriminatory," said Noble.

Once the student body is made aware of the gender issue, UVSS will make a presentation to the board of governors, who will take the decision to campus planning.

"I can't see hammers going through walls building these bathrooms before Christmas," said Beames.

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FINE ARTS HACKER UPDATE

The *Martlet* has received new information from an anonymous source who claims to have traded hacking secrets with the man who defaced the Fine Arts server earlier this month, known only as Narco.

The anonymous source e-mailed *Martlet* editors Sept. 19 asking if there was a reward for turning Narco in to the authorities. At the end of the e-mail he added that the UVic system is still unsecured.

"I have [Narco] on my msn messenger and, well, he was teaching me some stuff," the e-mail said.

In a second e-mail, the source claimed he was also capable of gaining access to the server, and that if the scripting is not secured Narco will not be the last one to hack it.

"Narco, he's a cool Mexican guy that is learning from other old-school hackers like redpoint, rocket, etc.," he wrote. "They are Mexicans as well. Narco hacked the server because everybody is competing to see who is the best and all of that crap."

The immediate reaction to the e-mails from Morven Wilson, the chief information officer in charge of all computer systems at UVic, was that there is no way to confirm the legitimacy of the source's claims. Even if the claims were legitimate, they would be of little value as the department has no plans to try to prosecute the offender.

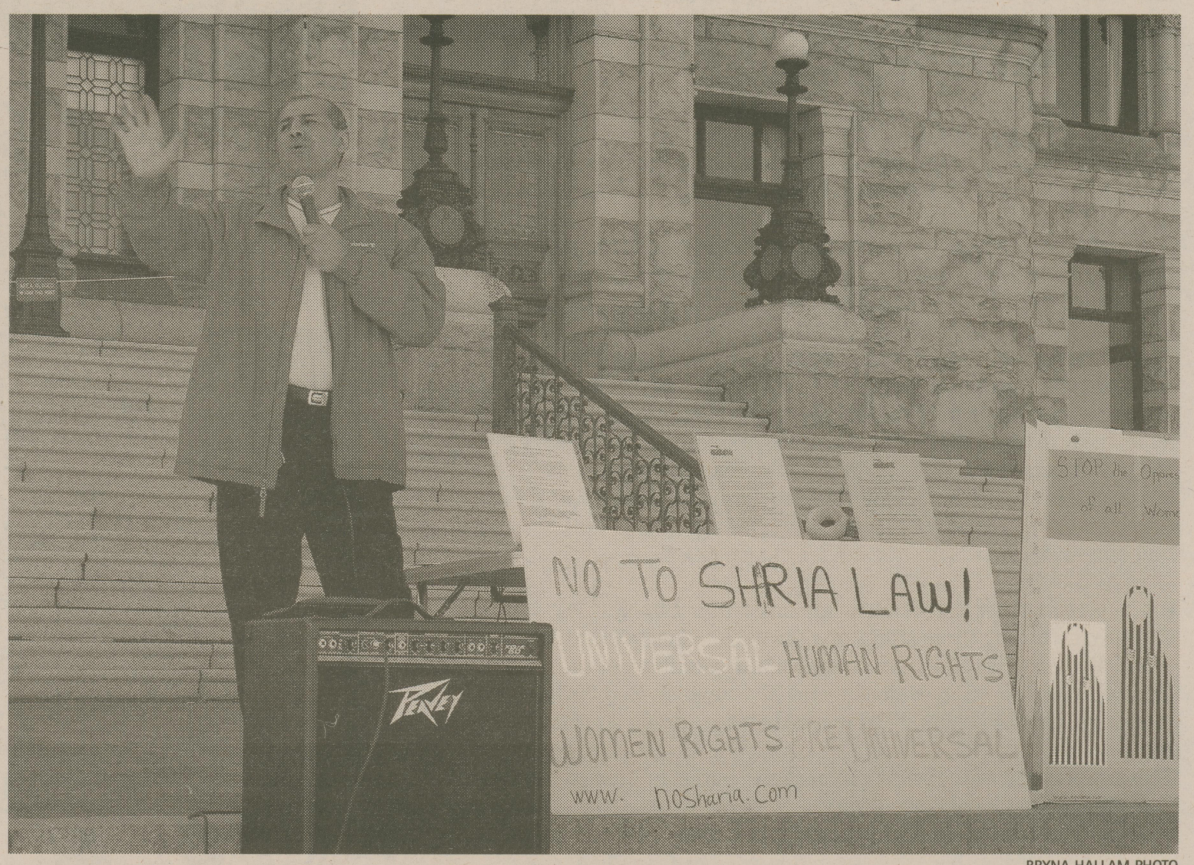
His department is currently focused on securing the server, rather than trying to trace hackers who could be operating from almost anywhere.

Initial estimates of the cost of the Narco hack job to the university were in the $4,000 to $5,000 range.

Faith-based arbitration ban draws cheers, criticism

Ontario Premier Dalton McGuinty's move to eliminate all faith-based courts sparks debate

by Nadya Bell
CUP Ottawa Bureau Chief



BRYNA HALLAM PHOTO

Abbas Mohammadi protests Shariah law outside the B.C. Legislature.

OTTAWA (CUP) — Opponents of Shariah law got the answer they wanted as Ontario Premier Dalton McGuinty announced on Sept. 11 the province will not legalize Islamic religious tribunals and intends to scrap all faith-based arbitration systems—including Jewish and Christian ones—in Ontario.

Homa Arjomand, co-ordinator of the International Campaign Against Shari'a Court in Canada, said the announcement was a victory for women's rights in Canada and globally.

"Our rights are not guaranteed under any type of faith-based arbitration. It's about time for the government to come forward and say no to all," said Arjomand.

Arjomand co-ordinated protests in 12 cities across Canada, including Victoria, and in Europe on Sept. 8 in vocal opposition to the use of Shariah law principles in Ontario.

In December 2004, a government report by former Ontario Attorney General Marion Boyd proposed that Shariah tribunals become a legal method of family arbitration. The tribunals would have allowed family disputes on marriage, custody, and inheritance to be settled informally through a Mullah, a Mullah, a Muslim cleric trained in the law of Islam.

But McGuinty's decision has not pleased everyone. Anita Bromberg is a legal counsel for B'nai Brith Canada, a national Jewish rights organization. She said wiping out all faiths' right to arbitrate issues within their respective communities to satisfy human rights concerns under Shariah law is not an acceptable solution.

"We are currently in consultation with constitutional lawyers, as well as with representatives from the Muslim community to see what kind of path we will take to challenge Premier McGuinty's decision," she said.

Bromberg said B'nai Brith is very disappointed with the decision to dismantle the Jewish arbitration system—one that has been in effect for 100 years in Ontario.

Speaking at the Ottawa protest of about 100 people, Bonnie Diamond, the executive director of the National Association of Women and the Law, said there is no way of ensuring that Shariah tribunals in Ontario would respect women's rights.

"Marion Boyd's report erroneously says that the private arbitration act is not subject to the Charter of Rights and Freedoms," said Diamond. But as the Arbitration Act is part of Ontario law, any decisions rendered would have to comply with the Canadian Charter.

"We cannot democratically alter religious principle," said Diamond.

Creating a separate system of family law for Muslim citizens would mean different rules for citizens depending on their background, according to Diamond.

Shariah arbitration would have to be voluntarily chosen by both parties, and the decision could be appealed in the courts. However, concerns were raised that women might be coerced into using the Islamic tribunals.

As a counsellor for abused women and children in the Muslim community, Arjomand says Shariah law is practised informally today, such as when Mullahs bless third and fourth wives, even though they have no authority under Canadian law.

Arjomand says educating Muslim communities on Canadian family law is an important step in protecting women's rights.

The Ontario decision helped the cause against Shariah law around the world according to Arjomand. "We have to continue to fight against the establishment of Shariah globally, in Germany, England."

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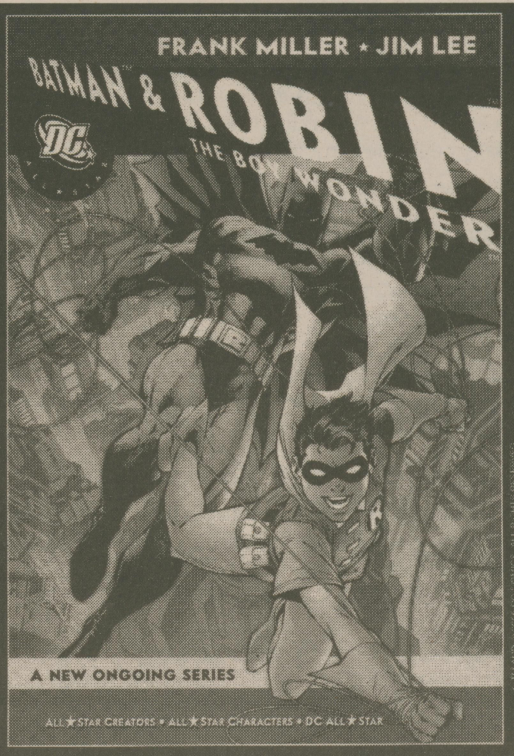
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Editorial

Being friends means knowing when to say 'no'

Seeing the mighty behemoth on our southern border knocked down to its knees by hurricane Katrina was real shock and awe.

Here we have the most powerful nation in the world, the richest nation, unable to respond or cope with the largest natural disaster on its soil in recorded history.

And while the temptation might be to thumb our noses, point and grumble about how we, their noble northern neighbour, are always lending a hand to bail them out—remember how we let all of those potentially dangerous flights destined to land in the U.S. touch down on our soil after the twin tower attacks?—let's take a look at the real extent of our friendship, shall we?

Bail out #1: Katrina

In the aftermath of Katrina, Canada has sent aid to New Orleans, including three ships, one Canadian Coast Guard vessel, beds and blankets. More than 1,000 members of the Canadian Forces, 35 navy divers, and 27 Canadian Red Cross members, among others, have made their way down south.

This is not a bail out. This is just part and parcel of being a member of the global community.

Remember the South-East Asian tsunami? The Canadian government donated $425 million, Canadian citizens dug nearly $100 million out of their pockets, and the provincial and territorial governments donated $18.5 million.

Throw in the non-monetary aid—things like the Disaster Assistance Response Team and volunteers who went to Sumatra—and you've got a pretty good idea of the Canadian response.

Yes, this situation is different (U.S. vs. poorer nations, drastically different death tolls) but our willingness to help out shouldn't be.

Bail out #2: Afghanistan

Yes, we still have troops in Afghanistan. According to the Department of National Defence, Canada has deployed 20 warships and more than 13,500 soldiers, sailors and air personnel since October 2001. This, of course, is part of the American-led Operation Enduring Freedom, aka "the war on terror."

Canada is also involved in NATO's International Security Assistance Force, and has 900 troops deployed as part of that.

But is this really a bail out? Canada has a long history of peacekeeping missions (yes, this is what it's still being called) around the world. If, say, Australia had invaded Afghanistan, we would still likely be in the same position, because that's what we Canadians do.

The real situation here is that Canada—and other countries—get dragged along and into the States' decisions. If they decide to invade another country, the rest of us are going to have to deal with the consequences.

This is the nature of power dynamics—one decision or action inevitably impacts everyone in some way. It is also the nature of the world economy—who wants to piss off their largest trading partner?

The real bailout is that we tend to go along with it, generally acquiescing to their demands and worldview, and legitimizing their positions.

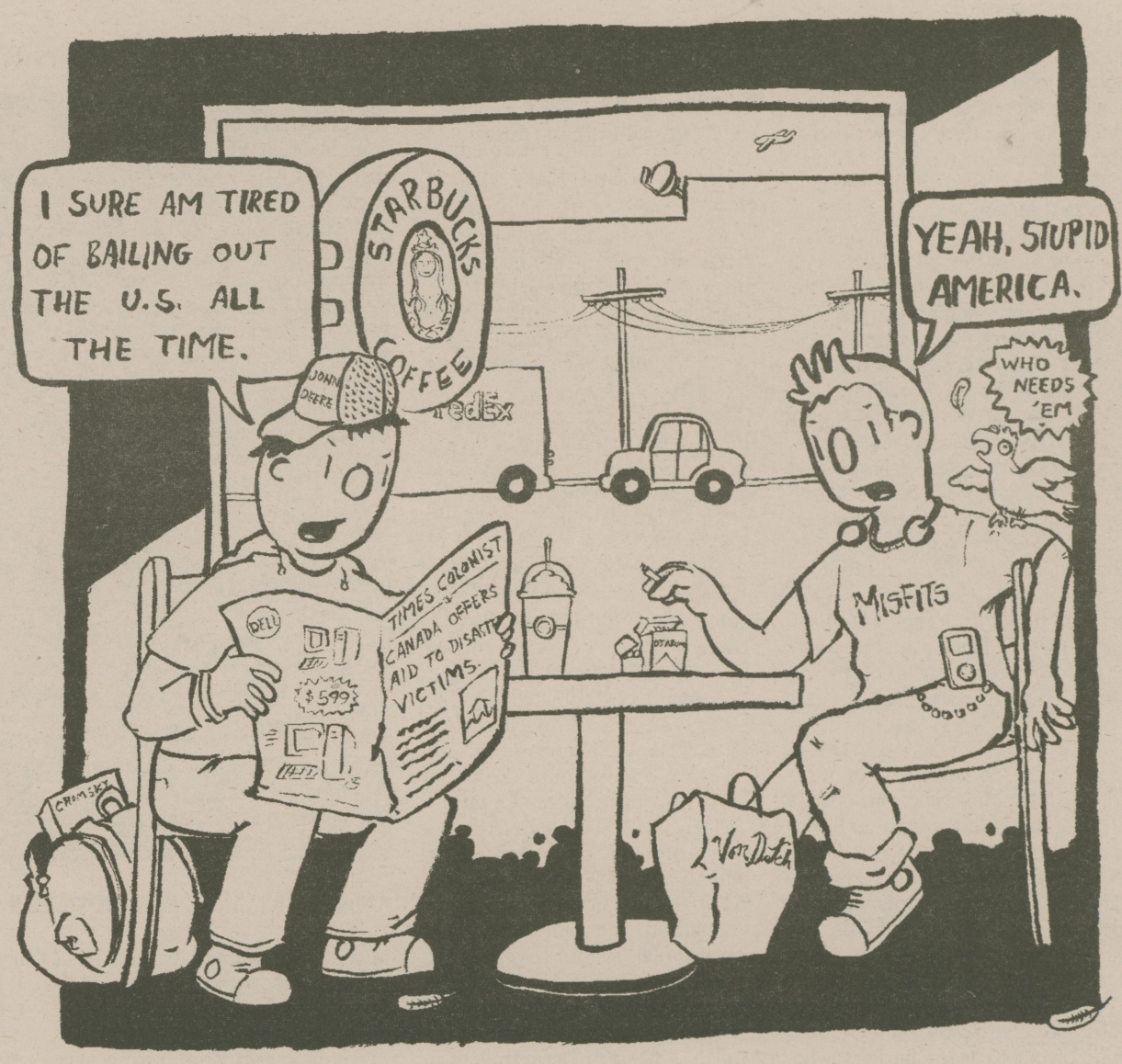
Canada would be a much better neighbour and global citizen if we stood up more often and refused to go along with their schemes.

Editorial topics are decided at weekly editorial meetings and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of all staff members.

Don't like what you read? Think you can do better? Write us, or write for us.

edit@martlet.ca

EDITORIAL CARTOON | BAILING OUT THE STATES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MISFITS

ANTHONY FRATTAROLI GRAPHIC

LETTERS

On Bullshit

Editors,
Your mom and dad were wrong! There is nothing wrong with lying if you are lying to the bad guys. My mother was an expert. She lied to the Gestapo for several years during the occupation government as to my father's whereabouts. My father told me a few cardinal rules about lying:
•Lying should be done sparingly, only when absolutely necessary.
•The lie should be simple enough for more than one person to remember it, and repeat it, faultlessly. "This is our story, and we are sticking to it."
•You must look the person you are lying to in the eye, unblinking and without faltering.

Lying is an extremely important survival skill, and those who are inept at it are to be pitied. There are plenty of disciplines taught at universities where people are guilty of shoddy research and reasoning. Often those who have the wool over their eyes are either naïve or are polite enough not to challenge the liar.

There are people who lie, and they don't even know they are lying. Again, these two people can look the television camera right in the lens and at least one in three of us will buy it. Another third don't care if they are being lied to as long as it doesn't hurt them in the pocketbook or bank account.

I have found that people who are brutally frank and honest create a lot of unnecessary conflicts. The key to lying is knowing how to keep secrets and minding your own business.

It is indiscrete and impolite to kiss and tell. Monica, I don't give a shit if you gave the president a blowjob.

-Ben Olsen

Thanks for Steve Fonyo commemoration

To Whom It May Concern,
I want to thank you for the article commemorating my Uncle Steve Fonyo for his accomplishment (May 19, 2005). The 20th anniversary of his Journey for Lives came and went without special attention from the media that dishonored Steve and disheartened our family.

Thanks again.

-Melody

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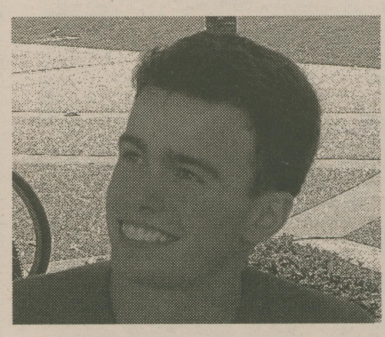
on the spot

THIS ISSUE'S QUESTION:

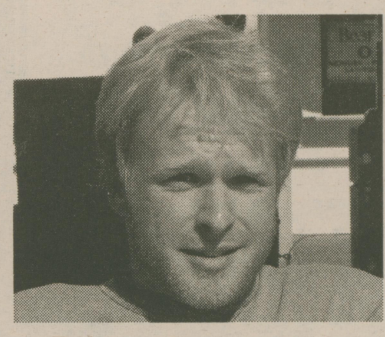
If you didn't pay so much tuition, what would you buy?

BY FORD WALKER — PHOTOS BY GRAHAM STARK



Robert Walker
Pyschology

RW: Stock.
FW: What kind of stock?
RW: I'm thinking the arms trade. They make a lot of money with all the war.
FW: Is this decision influenced by that new Nick Cage movie *Lord of War*?
RW: No no, I've wanted to do this for a while.



Jeremy Hall
Geography

JH: I would buy a bus, or a trip to Central America, or a combination thereof.
FW: Now don't you think the bus would help you vacation toward Central America?
JH: That's what I am saying, it all depends on the cash.

Meghan Thom
Poli Sci & Enviro. Studies
Kerri Boland
Phys. Ed.

KB: I would buy $4,000 worth of orange things.
MT: I'd buy structural change.
FW: Huh? Could you elaborate?
MT: Well, I was thinking I would buy world peace or would feed everyone, but then I thought 'money can't buy those things.' So instead, I'd bribe lots of politicians to affect structural change.

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Student loans bad, ICR is worse

'The nature of ICR is such that the poor pay more than the rich'

by Penny Beames

Last week the *Martlet* ran an editorial decrying the Canada Student Loans program as an "unjust, byzantine clusterfuck," and it couldn't have been put better. The loans system in Canada does not work for students. I know, having had to wade through the bureaucracy several times to receive the $30,000 I currently owe.

But just as I was getting set to jump up in the middle of the bus ride home and shout "Testify!" I stumbled upon the editorial's conclusion. Much to my chagrin, the conclusion was that the best way to reform the current loans system is through the implementation of Income Contingent Loan Repayment (ICR).

The current discussion around ICR in Canada (read: the Rae Review in Ontario) couches it in the progressive language of accessibility. Indeed, what's more progressive sounding than paying back loans based on your income after graduation? In reality, however, ICR is a highly regressive system that would significantly erode accessibility to post-secondary education.

To get to the heart of what ICR is actually all about, it's useful to return to the man who first proposed them. Neo-conservative economist Milton Friedman proposed ICR in the United States, not as a system of financial assistance, but as a funding model. This model gives students access to unlimited loans, allowing institutions to offload the full cost of education onto the individual. In effect, it is a policy time bomb that would steadily erode our public post-secondary education system.

And in case you thought things had changed since 1955 when Friedman first dreamed IRC up, documents obtained from the Federal government in 2004 through an access to information request sum up ICR thus: "ICR loans would solve the problem of university and college under funding, by allowing institutions to increase tuition fees to cover a greater portion, or even all of [their] costs."

In Australia the implementation of ICR was coupled with an increase in tuition fees of 500 per cent, and followed by increases of up to 125 per cent in subsequent years.

And the problems don't end there. The nature of ICR is such that the poor pay more than the rich. Lower-income earners pay off their loans over a longer period of time, accumulate more interest, and therefore end up paying significantly more than those who are able to pay quickly.

Those who historically do not receive equitable pay—such as women and indigenous peoples—are further penalized under ICR. While this is no different than any other loans system, loans under ICR are much larger and therefore inflate the problem.

International evidence collected from jurisdictions where ICR has been implemented shows conclusively that they are bad news—not just for students but also for society as a whole. In the U.K., applications to post secondary education from low-income earners have dropped significantly since the implementation of ICR. In New Zealand, student debt is projected to reach $20 billion by 2020 and has been pointed to as a factor in New Zealand's declining birth rate, increased emigration, and decreased rates of home ownership.

It's because of all these negative consequences that students have fought tooth and nail against the implementation of ICR in Canada. In fact, a plan from the federal government to implement them in 1995 resulted in the largest student demonstration in Canadian history. Minister of Human Resources Lloyd Axworthy lost his cabinet post because of it, and the plan was scrapped.

Yet ICR continues to be trotted out as a quick fix to the administrative and financial woes of our post-secondary education system. We know they precipitate even greater woes.

If we're serious about making post-secondary education work for students and society, we need to stop looking for quick fixes that allow government to take a hands-off approach.

Policymakers need to renew investment of time and resources to create a vision for a fully funded, sustainable public post-secondary education system.

Oops—he's doing it again

Liberals demand revote after STV ballot was rejected

by David Karp

Undemocratic. That's the only way to describe the Liberals' decision to hold a second referendum on single transferable vote (STV).

In November 2008, B.C. will again head to the polls to decide the fate of its electoral system.

The referendum in May was perfectly legitimate. Citizens rejected STV, albeit narrowly. Still, the vote was held and there is no good reason to overturn it. Holding another vote would completely invalidate the first vote.

It's like that Seinfeld episode where Jerry flips a coin and it hits the table before hitting the ground. George loses the toss and demands a redo because he didn't get his way.

Our premier didn't get his way the first time. Electoral reform is his baby and he wants to see it through. Gordon Campbell didn't get the result he wanted, so now he wants another kick at the can.

If the question asked of voters changed, that would be one thing. The STV vote in May clearly demonstrated an appetite for electoral reform. But the fact remains over 40 per cent of people rejected STV. Many people have called into question why we should switch to an obscure, complex system that is only used in a tiny number of countries around the world. Isn't now the perfect time to look at other options?

People aren't going to drastically change their mind about STV. If the 2008 vote passes, it will probably be by a slim margin. And if barely failing is not legitimate and requires a second vote, how is barely passing any more legitimate?

How many times must people vote to be heard? Obviously, once is not enough. Will we keep having referendums until STV passes?

I suppose you can't fault Campbell for following the old "if at first you don't succeed, try again" mantra. But in this case, a success for STV will be a failure for democracy.

Rap music is going to hell

'The entire melody is just clapping and a synthesizer that sounds like a bad MIDI file'

by Ford Walker

Turn on Much Music's Rap City and you'll hear the same shit they've been playing for the last five years. Incredibly basic beats mixed with some hot, half-naked guy dancing with 20 or so hot, half-naked girls and they call it music.

Seriously, rap is in the fast lane going straight to Crapsville.

What happened to the good old days of semi-complex beats like the Wu-Tang Clan or NWA? Most of the new rap backbeats sound like one of those cymbal clapping toy monkeys.

Consider Will Smith's song "Switch." The entire melody is just clapping plus a bad synthesizer line that sounds like a MIDI file. With the rise of the crunk style, rap has lost its musical integrity.

And the music isn't the only thing that is dragging rap music down. Gone are all the figureheads of the genre save for the occasional Dr. Dre and Snoop Dogg attempt. Jay-Z announced his retirement recently, Master P has been out of the running for years, and the Wu-Tang Clan will never truly recover from the death of Ol' Dirty Bastard last year.

This leads to the subject of Dr. Dre in the guise of producer.

He's been behind the two largest rapper's in recent memory: Eminem and 50 Cent (of course, the 50 is pronounced "fiddy").

Here, we have Eminem, a white rapper, and while I do not want to be racist, because he is a talented rapper, it still is a tragedy that the most lucrative and popular artist since the dawn of the almost entirely black genre is a white man. This isn't to say that white guys can't rap, but Dre personally created a monster out of Marshall Mathers and put the hip hop world on its head.

As for the case of 50 cent, we have a "hard" rapper (he must be hard since he was shot nine times, right?) who simply embodies the male version of Britney Spears. He is a beautiful black man and he sings exclusively about getting your clothes off. He has no say in the making of his own music, he is just a puppet and Dre has his right arm about five feet up this guy's ass. There is no better way to put it: his music is as pop as rap can be.

And how about rap's misogynist image nowadays? Granted, the bling-blingin' videos with big cars and many beautiful scantily clad females dancing around is nothing new to the persona of rap, or in rock for matter. The problem is that the gangsta and ho routine is ageing like Sir Mix-A-Lot!

How many generic videos can one make? What happened to the days of the rap epic—like Tupac and Dre's video for "California" or Puff Daddy and Notorious B.I.G.'s video for "Hypnotize"? Seriously, rap videos are contributing to the genre's demise just as much as the people who perform it.

Lastly, we must speak on the subject of content. There was a time when rap was meant to incite political or cultural change. The names on the list of socially conscious rappers are many, so to just name a few we should mention Public Enemy, NWA and more recently Dead Prez.

OK, there are a few big artists, like Outkast and Kanye West, who have political lyrics. The problem is no one listens to their political songs like "Bombs Over Baghdad" or "Jesus Walks," instead they dance to the poppy, happy dance songs like "Hey Ya!" and "Gold Digger."

So, having listed the many vices rap currently has, what are some remedies that might spark a change?

Maybe a rap war would do some good, especially if 50 Cent gets shot and stays down this time (you would have to aim well, he wears a bullet proof vest now).

Also, it would be refreshing to see some new female rappers (Fergie from the Black Eyed Peas does not count). Maybe give the men some of their own medicine and have a video specifically of under-clothed men dancing around.

The nice thing about rap is that the possibilities are endless, yet no one is utilizing this amazing art form. The most disappointing thing about all the current failings of rap is that right now it's in the worst state it has ever been and it's more popular then ever.

Kids these days have no taste.

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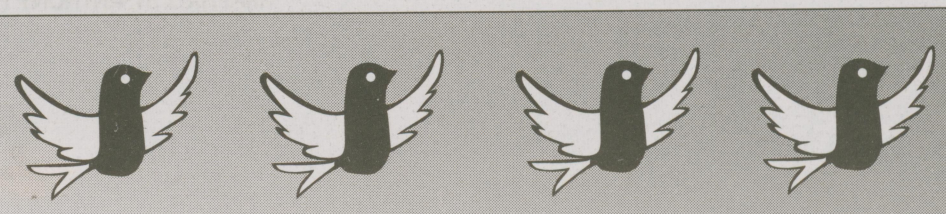


THE DEATH OF DATING:

Enter the Hookup

by Sarah Lindstein

The beat pounds the dance floor. Strobe lights flash dizzily, adding to the drunkenness in the club. With a body slathered in glitter and jeans, she makes blurry eye contact. She tosses her sleekly ironed hair.

He comes over.

They dance, grinding to the overwhelming music, and when it's time to leave, he walks with her to the cab.

Her friends ask, right in front of him, "Do you know this guy?"

No, she doesn't.

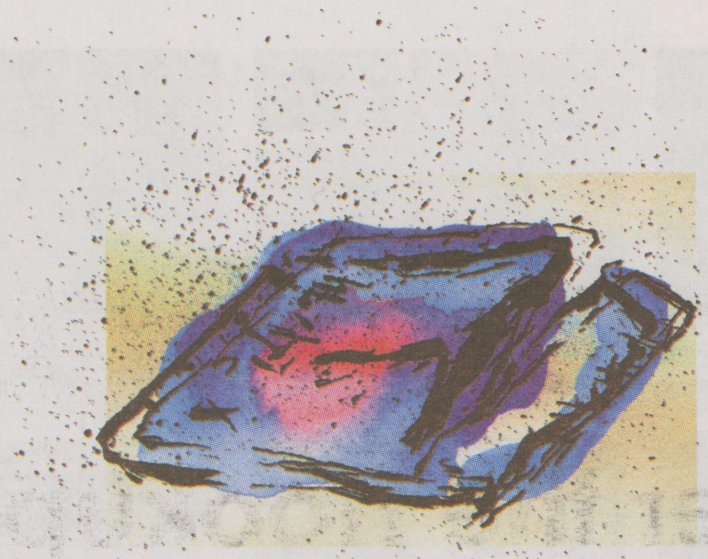
Warily, they watch him leave the club with her.

Back to her place they go: newfound strangers in a stereotypical situation. It sounds like a bad parody of university life, but in reality, dating is almost extinct. It resurfaces only in the rare couples that didn't meet the lazy way—otherwise known as the hookup.

Flings like the one described have been around for ages. Only recently have they hit the mainstream media and has terminology evolved to include specific situations. Websites like CollegeHumor.com are based entirely on the hookup culture, and the CBC recently did a feature story on the topic. There's even a book titled *The Hookup Handbook: A Single Girl's Guide to Living it Up*, by Jessica Rozler and Andrea Lavinthal. The book offers up wise tidbits on the truths behind hookups and how to get what you want out of them.

The hookup fits into three categories: the random hookup, the friends with benefits relationship and the unexpected connection.

GRAPHICS BY ANTHONY FRATTAROLI



Random hookup

The random hookup is a fun encounter with a stranger or a friend of a friend—basically, nobody close but nothing scandalous.

"It's so popular because people are too lazy to get to know other people, so they're all detached and in it for themselves and instant gratification," says Marie Levesque, a third-year geography student at the University of Ottawa.

She thinks the random hookup is simply a careless way to meet and discard a potential partner, or even a friend.

"It's so shallow and cheapening. I mean, do you even know the person afterwards?"

Others are not so condemning, especially because right now, it seems everyone in university has participated in the phenomenon at least once.

Kyle McLeod, a second-year humanities student at UVic, is a particular fan of random encounters.

"It's not as shallow as people imagine," he says. "It's just two people allowing their primal urges to surface, dealing with them as suits the situation, and then getting on with their day."

Taken from *Cosmopolitan* magazine's online message board, this bit of information relating to dealing with a one-night stand says it all: "Take a shower and enjoy the memories. Expect nothing to come out of it. If it does, great; if it doesn't, then you haven't lost anything."

The article even offers advice to twentysomethings on how to accomplish a successful hookup, without faux pas or embarrassment. For example, it refers to tricky situations such as seeing the fling outside of the bedroom, how to deal with Valentine's Day and how to broach the topic of taking things further. These are all concerns of the savvy hookup participant, claims *Cosmo*.

"Hooking up is not what you think," reads the article. "It's lusty fun with someone usually in your social circle, like your roommate's hunky friend."

Who cares if he or she calls the next day? By then, you'll have moved on. Waiting by the phone is old-fashioned. Time to be proactive and get out there, says *Cosmo*.

However, the article admits there's nothing worse than surviving the aftermath of a party with a successful hookup, then seeing the object of your drunken affections at lunch the next day, grinning knowingly with all his or her friends.

Friends with benefits hookup

The special benefits hookup is a prolonged one-night stand where two good friends share more than companionship. One major aspect of this relationship is lack of communication. Nobody knows where they stand and things just go along with ambiguous meanings and hidden feelings.

That's the fastest way to get hurt, according to first-year UVic English student Julie Hall.

She had a relationship with a guy friend dissolve because they never defined their hookup.

"In some way, I guess you could call it friends with benefits, even though I hate that term —it seems so cheap. He assumed I wanted more and that scared him. I didn't, though. We just never talked about it until it was over. Now I'm totally going to have second thoughts about no-strings-attached relationships—friends or not."

Hall used to meet her guy late at night, usually after she had been drinking.

When he was drunk, things changed. He would say thing like, "Why don't we go out—make it real?" Hall says, but in reality he meant nothing of the sort.

Friends with benefits can be tricky. The relationship requires exquisite communication and finely tuned emotional responses. When it goes wrong, so does the friendship, possibly never to be salvaged again.

So if these encounters don't always go as planned, why are casual flings so popular?

The standard answers given by students living in UVic's Ring Road Hall residences are freedom, an eager supply of freshmen and alcohol-impaired judgment.

Unexpected connection

Finally, there is the possibility that those looking to hookup are actually in search of the elusive unexpected connection.

This is a success story of sorts, where a hookup, either random or a friends with benefits, leads to a connection so profound it grows into a long-term relationship.

Second-year UVic psychology student Anne Willis experienced that with her current boyfriend.

"It took a while for things to get going. We met up a few times and messed around, but after that ... we just knew. It's been one year since our first 'official' date," she says.

It all comes down to commitment or lack thereof. It takes time to get to know a new person and casual flings seem to streamline the whole process. And if there's somebody new every time you turn around, why stick with just one? Reputations are elastic, and who in university, or the real world, can't say they haven't experienced some sort of ambiguous relationship?

Good or bad, the hookup is here for the time being. Whether it's the slackers' way to get action, or a genuine attempt to practice until getting it right with "the one," one-night stands no longer have taboo status. The hookup has infiltrated our consciousness.

Recently, Christina Williams, a 20-year-old political science student at UVic, went on a double date bowling with a pair of mutual friends. The two couples competed against each other and the losers had to buy dessert.

When she told her friends about the night out, they were stunned. They asked her, "Who does that anymore?" she says. To them, it seemed quaint and sweet.

Perhaps it was the sheer rarity of her cute double date that shocked them, even made them envious. Perhaps secretly, the shallowness of hooking up gets old and some of us, disillusioned with the superficiality, are envious of those who make it work. Actual dating takes on a whole new allure and the work involved makes it that much more worthwhile.

STUDENT-TO-STUDENT ADVICE

Ask Bunny

Dear Miss Bunny,
So I've been seeing this boo for awhile now. We have a pretty standard relationship, except that it's been a few weeks we haven't had sex yet.

It's not that we haven't been motivated to have it, and opportunity has also not been an issue.

The problem is, I have never had unprotected sex before, and she only wants that particular variety. You see, she is Catholic, yet she has given up on this virgin-before-marriage idea. However, she still believes that condoms are against God's will.

What should I do? I really like this girl, but I am also only 21 and getting a girl pregnant is the last thing I want.

Sincerely,
Nobody's Baby Daddy

Dearest Mr. No-Daddy,
I have to admit my first instinct was to scream "RUN, Forrest, RUN!" But you like this girl, and seem to have a sense of integrity that would prevent you from turning tail.

Speaking of tail, I believe you can choose one of two doors here. Let's show him what's behind door number one, Johnny!

Door number one: No sex. I know, that sentence gives me the chills, too. But remember, no sex does not equal no pleasure. One isn't too lonely a number (if you want a job done, isn't it best to do it yourself?) and 69 is a pleasant time.

I'm proud of you for abstaining as long as you have. Neither of you should have to sacrifice your beliefs for a lay. It may feel like doing the right thing is not as satisfying as boning your boo, but sticking to your principals never got a girl pregnant.

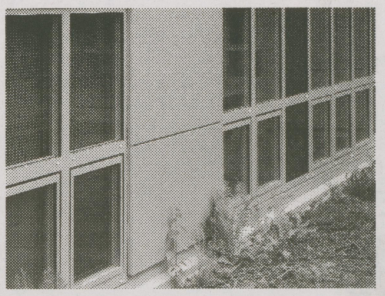
Door number two: Sex! You don't mention God's opinion on birth control, but if he's for it, then you can pull out your candles and Barry White records. Take your girlfriend down to the Island Sexual Health Clinic (http://www.bcclinic.ca) and talk about your options. Remember that birth control does not protect against STDs, so you both might as well get checked out by a nurse while you're there, and I don't mean ogled. Although a threesome with a nurse . . .

I also suggest speaking with the interfaith chaplains here at UVic (http://web.uvic.ca/chaplain). I bet it wouldn't be the first time they encountered conflicts between God and getting your freak on.

Essentially, it's dangerous to be so intimate and if you're not comfortable jumping without a parachute, then don't.

Got a question for Bunny? Email askbunny@martlet.ca. All letters will be entered in our monthly draw!

PHOTO CONTEST ANSWERS

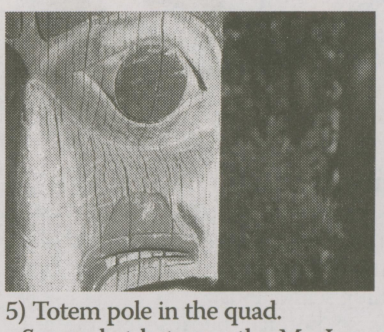


1) Engineering Lab Wing, facing Ring Road.

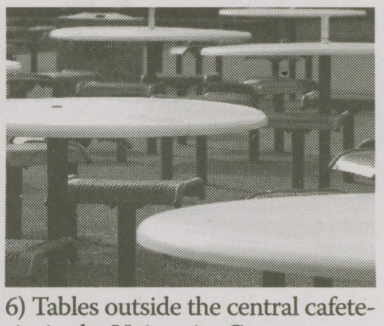
2) L-Hut, Earth & Ocean Sciences building, near the sports fields. Formerly a military barracks.

3) Parking Lot #2, beside Campus Security. E-Hut (Earth & Ocean Sciences) visible in background.

4) Split arbutus tree in Fine Arts parking lot, near Interfaith Chapel. Also a hole on the disc golf course.

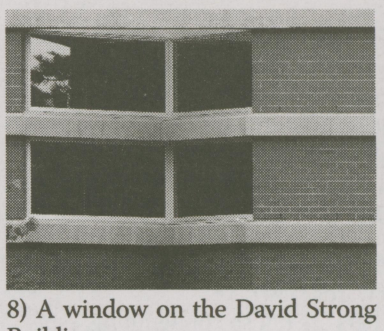


5) Totem pole in the quad. Somewhat between the MacLaurin and Cunningham buildings.

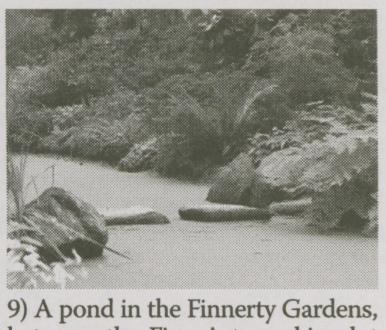


6) Tables outside the central cafeteria, in the University Centre.

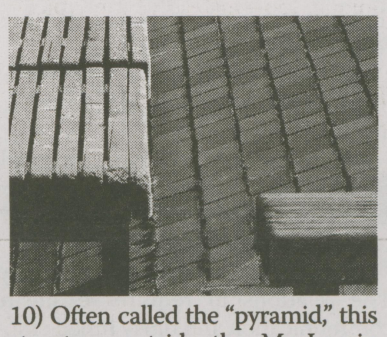
7) Scaffolding on the Clearihue building. Clearihue's "clock tower" is actually disguising a chimney.



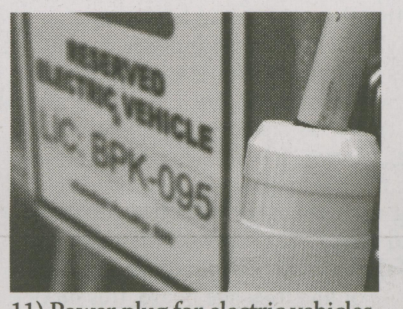
8) A window on the David Strong Building.



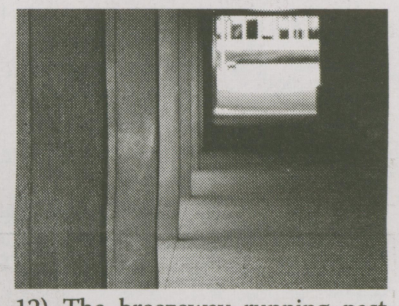
9) A pond in the Finnerty Gardens, between the Fine Arts parking lot and Cedar Hill Cross Road.



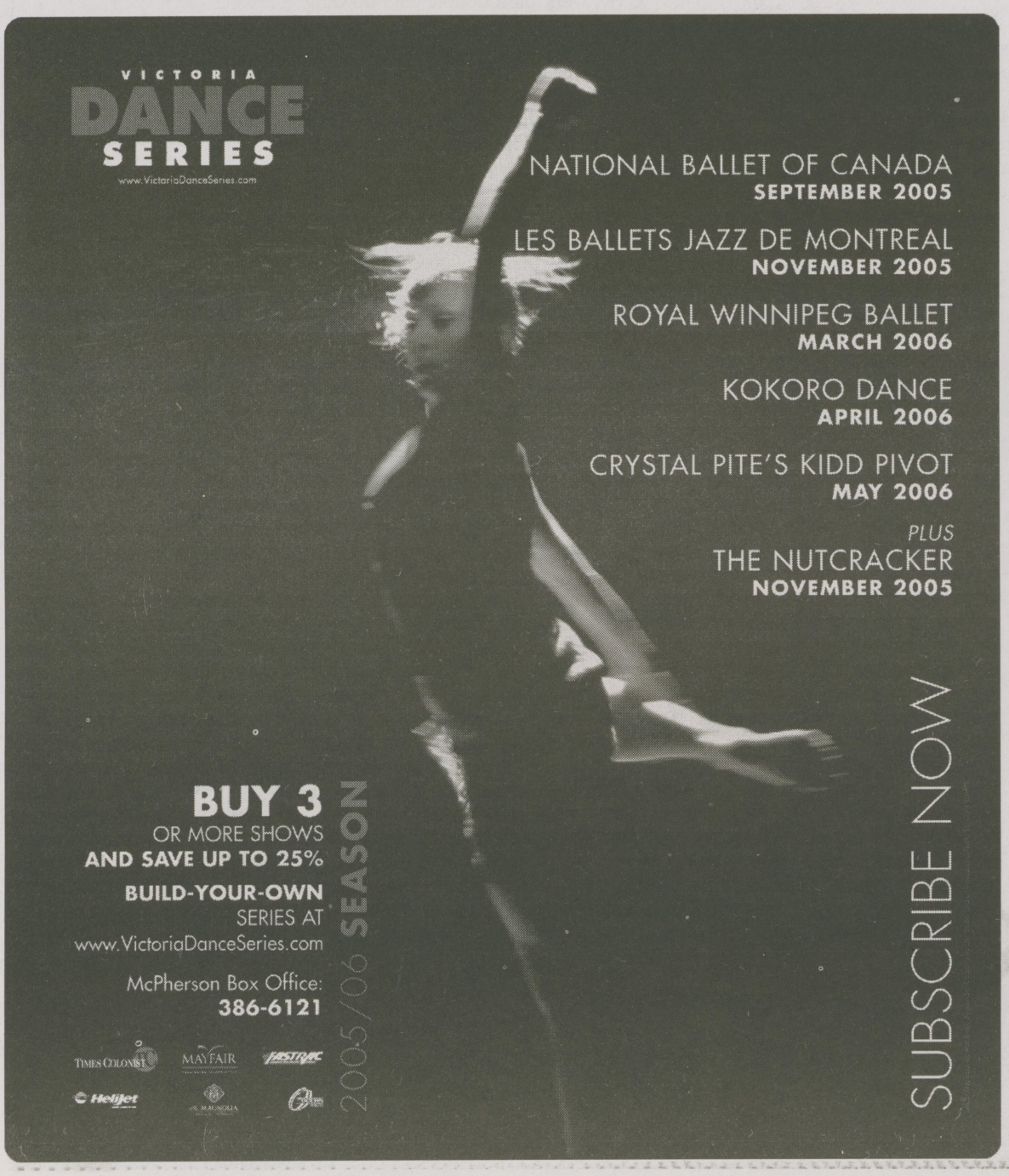
10) Often called the "pyramid," this structure outside the MacLaurin building is techically a ziggurat.

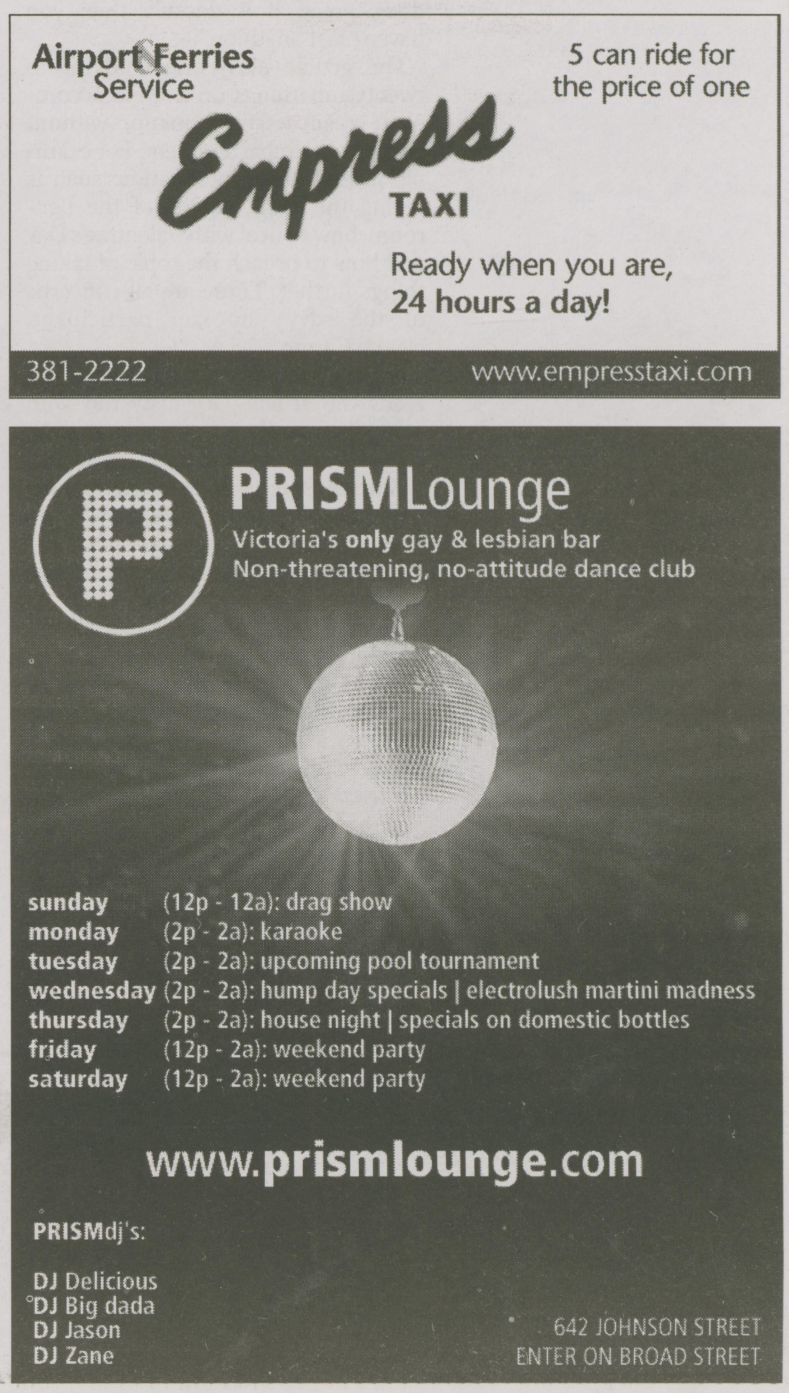


11) Power plug for electric vehicles, in parking lot D, near the Sedgewick building.



12) The breezeway running past Clearihue's B-wing, beside the courtyard.

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The end of innocence

Belfry production of *Goldfish* lampoons coming-of-age

What: Morris Panych's *Girl in the Goldfish Bowl*
Where: The Belfry Theatre, 1291 Gladstone
When: Sept. 13 to Oct. 9
How Much: $15 to $35, discounts for students

by Briony Smith

The Belfry's new production of *Girl in the Goldfish Bowl* boasts a rarity—a child who's not "smart for a kid," but a damn smart kid.

"Personally, I find the sight of male genitals RA-ther dis-A-POINTing," she says, after a male house-guest disrobes in plain view. Clearly, the 11-year-old renders "precocious"—one of the dozens of ten-cent words that litter her vocabulary— obsolete.

As evident in her authoritative enunciations, Iris (Jillian Fargey) is an old soul—literally, in fact.

Girl in the Goldfish Bowl, directed by Roy Surette, concerns a 40-ish woman's remembrances of a span of a few key days in the autumn of 1962 that mark the end of her childhood—a change eloquently expressed by Edmonton-born playwright Morris Panych: "My mother says you know when you've grown up—it's the moment you stop being happy, and start remembering when you used to be."

Typical of Panych dialogue and the play itself, it's a funny line, but with an undertone of melancholy and nostalgia.

Iris' mother (Maggie Nagle), who sighs loudly while standing forlornly on the pier, mourning a dead lover, never loved Iris's father (Steven Ratzlaff), a man fond of sitting at his drawing table doing very little drawing.

Everyone is incapable of enjoying what they have, either stuck in a lost past or imaginary future; Iris' mother barks, "Get off!" or "Go somewhere!" when her daughter shows affection. Even the family's boarder, the flame-haired Miss Rose (Gina McIntosh), is generally very cranky. As Iris says, people who gut fish all day are usually cynical.

Enter Mr. Lawrence (Jeff Haslam), an odd, mysterious man. Due to the recent death of her goldfish Amahl ("He's called Amahl 'cause that's where we got him"), Iris becomes certain that Mr. Lawrence—who does indeed have the look of a fish gawping for air after being flung into the bottom of the boat, and apparently did wash ashore—is the reincarnation of Amahl, who surely has come back to bring the family together again.

It is telling that the play takes place on a single set based on a tiny British Columbia fishing village. Set designer Ken MacDonald's solid wood banisters and sturdy plush couches are perfect for the characters' bouncing off one another: they have too much to say to make up for their nowhere to go.

While Nagle and Ratzlaff are subtle, chuckly, and adequate, Fargey and Haslam are the major standouts here, giving virtuoso performances that make Panych's words dance in the intimate yet lightning-fast patter of a paso doble.

Haslam, gawking furiously, tries to fit in with the normals; he asks questions constantly, his refrain of "What?" clanging off of his fellow actors' words in a rhythm that delights the ear. Timing is everything in this piece, and Haslam nails it to the wall.

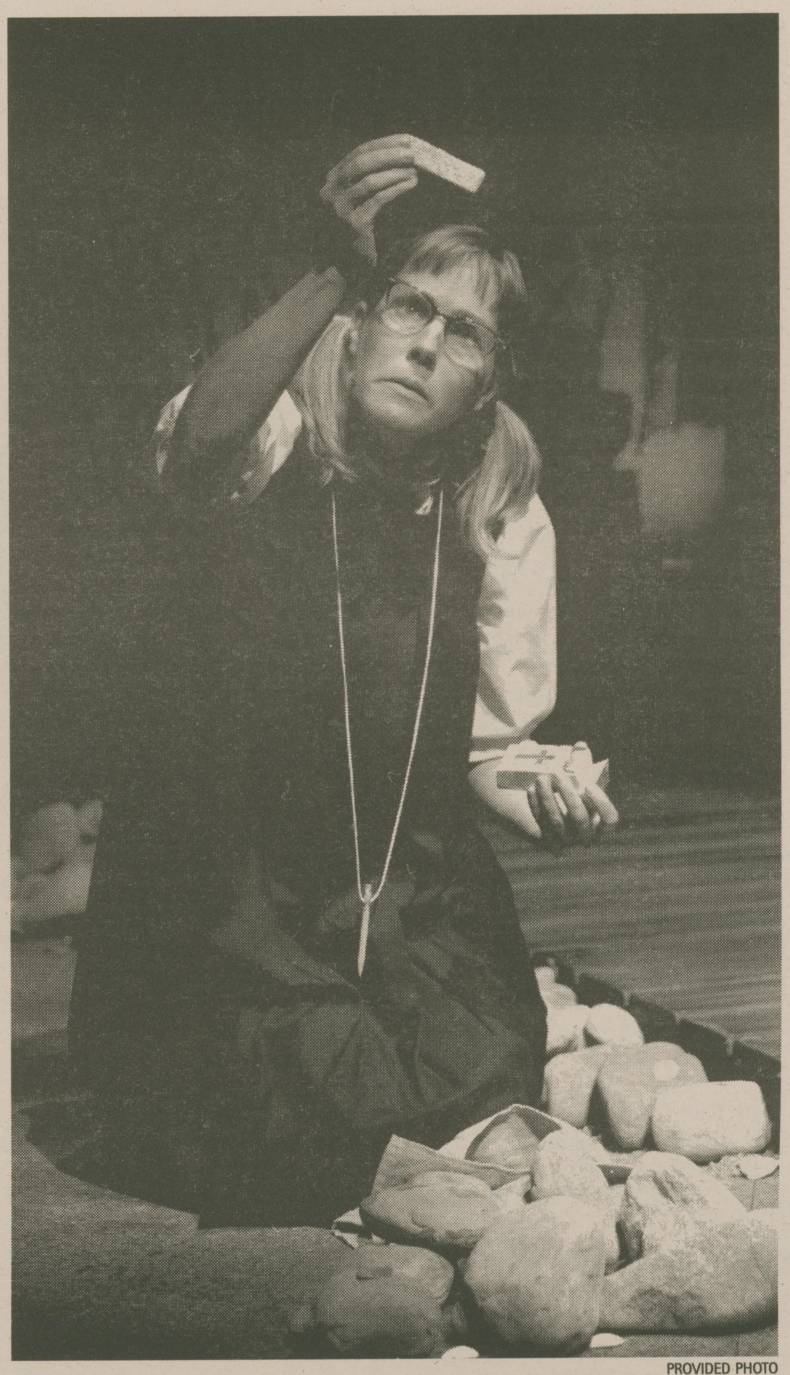
Tossing around loooong sentences with ease, Fargey makes it easy to believe she's a freakishly articulate 11-year-old. The dialogue is one of the very things that drew Fargey to the part. "The text goes by very quickly, so you really have to be on top of your game," she says, acknowledging the tightrope the performance tottered on. "It really was a challenge to find the rhythms, because if you didn't, it wouldn't work, " she said.

When Fargey saw an earlier production of the 2004 Governor General's Drama Award-winner, it was an entirely different play, but amazingly enough, every pause, every stutter, every gear-switch mid-sentence is there on the page, giving the actors a robust trampoline from which to soar off.

And it's a memorable bounce. *Girl in the Goldfish Bowl* is a timeless piece, according to Fargey, who feels that everyone can relate to it because everyone has that moment where they became an adult.

"It's a beautiful memory play, and unique, too—instead of the typical coming-of-age piece, geared toward a young audience, this is the perfect coming-of-age story for adults."

And, unlike Iris' glimpse of the male genitalia, it won't disappoint.



PROVIDED PHOTO

Jillian Fargey embodies Iris, a bright 11-year-old seen here burying a fishstick in place of her flushed goldfish Amahl.

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Canadian 'super group' embraces its weirdness

The New Pornographers visit Victoria in support of their latest release, *Twin Cinema*

Who: The New Pornographers, with Destroyer and Immaculate Machine
Where: Sugar Nightclub, 858 Yates
When: Thursday, Sept. 22
How Much: $20, tickets at Lyle's and Ditch

by Megan Drysdale

PROVIDED PHOTO

New Porn members Neko Case, Carl Newman and Dan Bejar all have flourishing solo careers.

A surprising admission from John Collins of The New Pornographers: "We leave for New York in two days to start our tour, and we've never been all onstage together. We haven't even rehearsed," says the bassist/guitarist/synth-player.

They have been together for eight years and have never been onstage all together? Such is the way of the "super group"—with their own side projects, these are busy people. It is amazing they have time to record, let alone tour for their third album, *Twin Cinema*.

Collins is a member of The Evaporators, a band known best for its frontman, Nardwuar the Human Serviette. Neko Case has a solo career which matches the popularity of the New Pornographers. Same with Dan "Destroyer" Bejar.

Somehow, they've managed to get together long enough to finish one of the most widely anticipated albums of the year, following 2003's *Electric Version* and 2000's *Mass Romantic*.

Pornographers' founder Carl Newman cites their contemporaries—Frog Eyes and The Fiery Furnaces—as influences on this album. Collins expands, "I think what we're borrowing from bands like The Fiery Furnaces are their crazy song structures and their devil-may-care attitude—the way they embrace their weirdness."

Mass Romantic and Electric Version were full of hyper, and up-tempo songs about alcoholism and cynicism. *Twin Cinema* is—well, I could say less accessible, but so has everybody else, including Collins.

"I guess I would say it's less uniformly accessible than the other albums. It's a bit more diverse. It's not hyper song after hyper song," he says. "It's ballad-y—parts of it."

The album is still distinctly Pornographers, an interesting new version of their unique sound.

From the glam rock of "Jackie Dressed in Cobras" to the folk-feeling duet in "Streets of Fire," the whole album is still pop. "Less anthemic" this time around, says Collins.

"I think it's a more interesting album in a way. And we were able to do it because we had the momentum of the other two albums behind us."

While they may not have toured all together in the past, this time fans get the whole enchilada. "It's going to be packed, eight people onstage. Very interesting just to watch what everybody's doing," Collins anticipates.

Bejar, who usually doesn't perform live with the band, will not be playing with the Pornographers, but will be doing a set as Destroyer. Victoria's Immaculate Machine opens the show—and singer Kathryn Calder, Newman's long-lost niece, plays piano and sings on *Twin Cinema*.

"Maybe it's just me, but it seems like there's a tendency towards a collective-style band in Canada. And it seems to really work for us—having this almost-too-big band. I just saw Stars, and they struck me like that.

"There's a lot of you in a space—there are diverging ideas at the same time [the music] is overflowing with ideas and sounds. There's this weird sense of camaraderie," says Collins.

"We're more of a gang than a tight musical unit."

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KMFDM storms Victoria with powerful new album

Who: KMFDM
Where: Sugar Nightclub, 858 Yates
When: Friday, Sept. 23
How Much: $20 at Lyle's Place and Ditch Records

by Sacha Narine

PROVIDED PHOTO

Sascha Konietzko (right) and Lucia Cifarelli (second from left) collaborated on *MDFMK* in 2000.

To fans of KMFDM, Lucia Cifarelli is a controversial figure.

"I could be a real bitch and a cunt and fuel your idea that I'm just one thing, which is some dark princess," she says on the phone from her home in Seattle. "But it's 11 in the morning and I'm having my coffee, and it'd be kind of inappropriate for me to be an asshole right now."

The reason so many garbed-in-black industrial fans find Lucia (pronounced Loo-CHEE-ah) so offensive is that KMFDM has been defining and redefining industrial rock since 1984, and they have never had a female lead vocalist before. A number of talented women loaned their voices to backing tracks and harmonies, but Lucia has changed KMFDM irrevocably, and she's not going anywhere. She and KMFDM co-founder Sascha Konietzko are happily married.

Konietzko and fellow German musician Udo Sturm formed KMFDM back in 1984, but Sturm moved on after less than a year while Konietzko soldiered on, half-jokingly calling himself the "father of industrial rock."

"You'd be surprised to see how we live," says Cifarelli. "Sascha likes good food, he likes good friends, and he likes to have a good time. People would be surprised by his sense of humour."

Having already crushed her own "dark princess" image, Lucia describes her infamous husband as a driven, fiercely talented man with no great inner demons and no evil in his soul. The two can seem intense on stage, but they're not rock royalty when they're shopping for fish.

KMFDM's latest release, *Hau Ruck*, sees the group in fine form, mixing hard-hitting industrial with vocal-heavy ballads and unique dance tracks. As always, Konietzko examines world politics with lead-pipe European cynicism.

"When we went in to make this record, some of our friends said, 'Don't you think it's time to tone down the political aspect,'" says Cifarelli. "The truth is, there's always been a political aspect to our music, well before I was a part of it. Sascha is very socially conscious—very compassionate and sensitive. It's in his make-up."

Not known for its thematic depth, Konietzko's political verse has been a constant with KMFDM since their breakout 1993 album, *Angst*, and its classic single "A Drug Against War." Their 2003 album *WWIII* saw the group again philosophizing on modern warfare, and *Hau Ruck* continues the tradition, even sampling tracks of George W. Bush speaking about the war in Iraq. Yet, the album is at its apex on tracks like "Free Your Hate," which tap into base emotion, not political sympathies.

"What we tried to do with this new album was to be *influenced* by KMFDM—the best of KMFDM in the past—and bring where we are now to that," says Cifarelli. "It's not shoe-gazer music. I appreciate and enjoy what Coldplay do, but when I go to a concert like that, I'm falling asleep. A record like [Coldplay's *X & Y*] is maybe better to listen to at home."

KMFDM is returning to Victoria, "back by popular demand," to play Sugar on Sept. 23. The shows are epic, but touring isn't just performing and partying, Lucia explains.

"It's not all laughs. When you're trapped on a bus with people for months on end, there are always tensions that arise, and sometimes it's tenuous. Thirteen or fourteen people trapped inside a steel box, traveling across the country. It's bound to be a powder keg from time to time. People go stir crazy after driving for 24 hours."

Cifarelli describes the band as "silly," and says the boys treat her like a sister, but the burden of touring can be difficult to bear.

"Sometimes I just want to crawl in my bunk and pull the covers over my head . . . and there's somebody masturbating next to me," she laughs. "Sometimes they forget you're a girl, and you bear witness to all sorts of shit."

When it comes to the live show, Lucia sounds perfectly confident. She knows KMFDM's strengths—engaging an audience, shaking up a venue, and making a lot of noise.

"It's electric," she says.

"A great KMFDM show is one where the audience is participating, feeding off the energy that we're emitting. There's a lot intensity coming off the stage. Whether you like us or not, nobody can deny that the energy on stage, and in the audience, is pretty fucking intense.

CD REVIEW | QUEEN

Queen + Paul Rodgers
Return of the Champions (Live)
Hollywood Records

by Max Lamb

Would Freddie have wanted this? Possibly, but maybe with somebody better than the singer from Bad Company. That fever of 103 recovered ages ago.

This double CD showcases the May 5, 2005 live performance at Hallam FM Arena in Sheffield. Queen guitarist Brian May and drummer Roger Taylor teamed up with Paul Rodgers to do the show, which featured a fair mix of both Queen and Bad Company hits.

It sounds like a rock fan's dream come true, but it gets crushed under its own age and hybridity.

Absolutely nothing on this record works. Rodgers can't sing Freddie Mercury and makes a poor excuse for a stand-in. Every classic Queen track sounds like a bad hair-metal cover or one of Bad Company's tracks from the late '80s.

Anthems like "We Will Rock You" and "Fat-Bottomed Girls" are completely drowned in Rodgers' poorly aged pipes and the roar of the sold-out stadium.

The show gets so tired of itself by the end that it resorts to finishing "Bohemian Rhapsody" with the original 1975 recording, with nothing but the crowd to back it up.

Queen is no stranger to the revival show. It worked back in 1992 with the Freddie Mercury Tribute Concert, where artists like David Bowie and Annie Lennox honoured the legendary frontman, and at times upstaged him.

At this point, Queen needs to give up the Rolling Stones' "Never say die" bullshit and just let the band be remembered.

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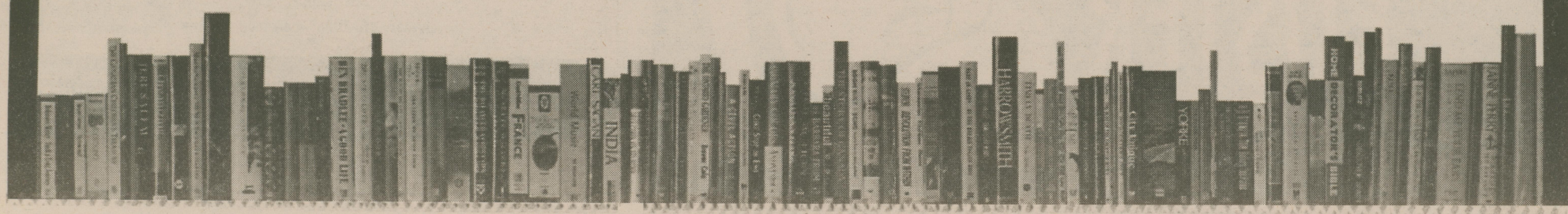

UVic student pens hit Fringe play

The 2005 Fringe 'Best New Play' *I Thee Wed* returns to the stage for one night only

What: On the Lam Productions' *I Thee Wed*
Where: The Metro Studio - 1411 Quadra Street (corner of Johnson & Pandora)
When: Saturday, Sept. 24 @ 7 p.m.
How Much: $15

by Rachel Reaugh

Get ready to laugh, cry and otherwise emote as Intrepid Theatre brings back three local Fringe plays for one night each. In the line-up, along with *Scrupulosity* and *Potentilla*, is the critically acclaimed play *I Thee Wed* by UVic student Karen Lee Pickett.

I met up with Karen Lee last week to chat about her play, being a writer/actor and starting her own theatre company.

Martlet: What is the play *I Thee Wed about*?

Karen Lee Picket: It's about the intimate friendship between Grace and Nona over three separate time periods—1902, 1952 and modern day. In the first section, Grace's family is forcing her to marry a man that she doesn't want to. In the second part of the play Nona, who has pretty much adopted the whole Donna Reed happy-housewife routine, is getting married, and Grace crashes the wedding. In the third part, Grace and Nona are marrying one another and having a discussion about marriage and what it means to get married.

Martlet: Where did the idea for *I Thee Wed* come from?

KLP: (laughing) Well...my partner and I were at this straight wedding and both of us noticed that one of the bridesmaids was looking very sad that the bride was getting married. I don't know if there was anything in that look, but that experience combined with the recent legislation on gay marriages just got me thinking about marriage. I started to look at the history of homosexuals in the 19th and 20th centuries and I just got this idea that it would be interesting to see the same two characters in three different time periods—50 years apart. I wanted to look at how society has changed in its thinking about marriage and women over the years.

Martlet: So what's it like to be the writer and one of the main actors in a play?

KLP: (chuckling) It's difficult to do both in the same project, but we had an amazing director, Britt Small, who is also a graduate of UVic, and she is phenomenal. Looking at a play as an actor and thinking about the play as a writer at the same time is challenging. Having a good director who can objectively look at the play with a fresh pair of eyes is really important.

Martlet: What's it like working with your partner onstage?

KLP: We've been together for four years and have done lots of plays together; in fact, we met doing a play. We did a show together last year for the Fringe called *Yard Sale*, and it was great working in this capacity with one another. Being the only two people on stage is just fantastic! In acting you are just striving to be congruous to each other, and when you already know the person so well, it just makes it that much easier.

PROVIDED PHOTO

Karen Lee Pickett time-travels in *I Thee Wed*.

Martlet: I understand you and your partner started your own theatre company. How did that come about, and what plans do you have for it?

KLP: We created On the Lam Productions last year when we did the play *Yard Sale*. We needed to put down a name of a theatre company for the Fringe and, well, (laughing) that's what we came up with. It's a pretty casual entity at the moment, but we would like to develop it more and we're thinking about creating a full-length play this spring.

Martlet: Thanks for your time.

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Religious freedom on the soccer pitch

Sikh players forced to choose between play and patka

by David Karp

To play or not to play—that was the decision confronting young Sikhs and their teammates at a pre-season tournament in the Lower Mainland earlier this month.

In three separate incidents, referees at the Langley Labour Day Tournament refused to allow Sikh players to wear patkas. Similar to a turban, a patka is a piece of cloth worn to cover the hair of young Sikhs who have not yet learned to tie a turban. Patkas are also commonly used in sports since they are more convenient than turbans, which are approximately five meters long.

The Laws of the Game, as set out by FIFA, soccer's international governing body, prohibit a player from wearing "anything that is dangerous to himself or another player (including any kind of jewelry)."

According to Langley United Youth Soccer Association President Bob Boyd-Whitley, referees received instructions from the BC Soccer Association (BCSA), about this rule in a refresher course leading up to the tournament.

"The instructor told referees they must enforce that there be nothing on the field except soccer gear," said Boyd-Whitley. "So he told them no turbans on the head."

No one from the BCSA was available for comment.

In a press release following the tournament, the BCSA said that it does not prohibit wearing religious headgear and said it will be investigating why such a ruling was made on the field.

"It's like asking you not to wear pants," said McGill University lecturer Manjit Singh, who explained that Sikh headgear is an important symbol and that asking a turban or patka be removed is inappropriate. "It's part of the Sikh code of dress."

PHOTO PROVIDED COURTESY WORLD FOOTBALL PAGES

Gurindar Dhah was ejected for allegedly swearing at the ref after being asked to take off his Sikh headgear.

In the first questionable call, 17-year-old Gurindar Dhah from Calgary's Northwest United, was asked by a referee to remove his patka. According to Boyd-Whitley, Dhah became irate and swore at the ref, which prompted a red card and his ejection.

Northwest United abandoned the match in support of Dhah and according to Boyd-Whitley, "The field marshal had to remove [the referee] because he was worried about assault."

Because of the red card, Dhah was also suspended from United's next match, which his team also forfeited in protest. Dhah wore his patka in the team's final match without incident. The club's president Mike Lefaivre declined comment because "the incident is potentially going to a human rights commission."

In a second situation, according to a press release from the Kensington-Little Mountain United, a ref told 14-year-old players that "they could remove their turbans and play, or only those players that did not wear turbans could participate." The team forfeited the game and withdrew from the tournament when the call was repeated at their second game.

In the final incident, a 15-year-old from the Williams Lake Players sat out for the first half when he was told his patka had to come off. The team called Boyd-Whitley at the break to complain.

"I asked the referee to disregard the rule for the remainder of the game and he refused," said Boyd-Whitley. The player sat out the match but played the rest of the tournament.

Chris Vaughan Griffiths, editor of the *World Football Pages* from New Westminster, said the negative media attention surrounding Canada's second largest youth tournament is unfortunate. "There were thousands of kids out there having a great time and all the media can focus on is the turban issue," he said. "It's a shame."

Since the tournament, the BCSA has rescheduled referee refresher courses and also sent a memo instructing refs to allow karas, a symbolic iron or steel bracelet worn by Sikhs.

The United States Soccer Federation's guidelines allow religious headgear, including turbans and yarmulkes, as long as it is not dangerous. However, "since referees may not know all the various religious rules," players must make requests to wear headgear well in advance of games.

In April 2004, the BBC reported that a Muslim woman was told to remove her hijab, a headscarf, for a soccer game in Melbourne, Australia despite having worn the scarf for the past four seasons. When she refused, the ref consulted with the local soccer federation and eventually allowed her to play. The start of the match was delayed.

"I would ask the umpires to explain how wearing a hijab affects a woman's ability to play soccer," she said.

University of Victoria
VIKES
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Men's soccer

Sept. 16: Vikes 1–Spartans 1

Vikes goalkeeper Adam Guy preserved a 1–1 tie in the final minutes with a diving save against the Trinity Western University (TWU) Spartans.

Will Moore scored on a penalty shot in the second minute of the game after Peter Richmond was fouled in the Spartan's box.

Head Coach Bruce Wilson called the Vikes' effort "a very disciplined performance against a very senior squad."

Sept. 18: Vikes 0–Thunderbirds 2

The UBC T-Birds defeated the Vikes after breaking a deadlock late in the second half with two quick, consecutive goals.

Women's soccer

Sept. 16: Vikes 1–Spartans 0

The Vikes took the opening game of the season and defeated Canadian Interuniversity Sport (CIS) champions, the TWU Spartans.

Mariel Solsberg scored the lone goal of the game and backliner Rachael Lovink kept the defensive line solid.

Sept. 18: Vikes 0–Thunderbirds 1

The game-winner came early in the game when the Vikes scored an own goal in an attempt to head the ball away from the net.

private auto insurance
discrimination case

YOUNG DRIVERS
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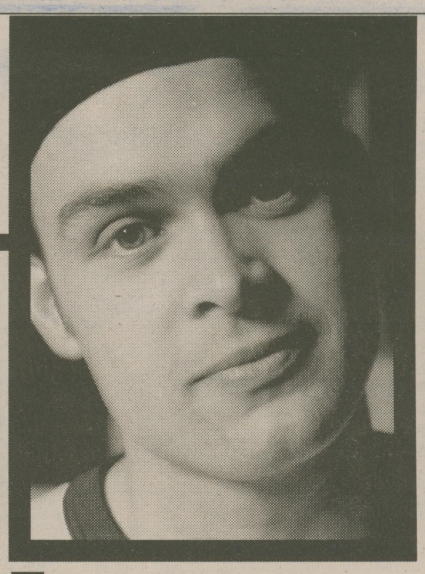

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Do you think it's wrong that some private auto insurance companies charge all young male drivers higher auto insurance rates than young female drivers even if they're safe drivers?

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W-VIKES RUGBY / W-VIKES FIELD HOCKEY

Rugby new sport for W-Vikes

by Sharon Hall

The Vikes women's field hockey and rugby teams kicked off their respective seasons with play over the weekend.

On Sept. 17, the field hockey team traveled to Duncan for an exhibition match.

The rugby team began the season with a loss to the Velox Valhallians 42–0.

Both teams have a lineup of players with strong drive and commitment to their game.

WOMEN'S FIELD HOCKEY

HEAD COACH:
Lynne Beecroft (21st season)

2004 RECORD:
- 4-1.
- Second place in regular season.
- Lost championship game to UBC Thunderbirds in CIS finals.

KEY RETURNEES:
Ali Lee (Canada West Rookie of the Year 2004 and captain of the 2004 U-18 provincial team and U-18 Vancouver Island regional team) and **Thea Cully** (Rossland Secondary School, Rossland, B.C.).

KEY NEWCOMERS:
Gilan Minty (Magee Secondary, Vancouver).

OVERVIEW:
This year's team consists of 18 players (11 first-years, six second-years and one third-year).

This is a young team whose foundation is built on strength and commitment. The team's ability to pull together and adapt to the fast pace of each game will be their greatest strength this year.

Six players with last year's team are currently competing in Chile with Team Canada in the Junior World Cup. Two of those players are returning to the team.

FIRST HOME GAME:
The Vikes host the Canada West Tournament Oct. 14–16

WOMEN'S RUGBY

HEAD COACH:
David Graham (1st Season)

2004 RECORD:
Didn't have a season.

OVERVIEW:
This team is beginning their season with a new coach who has an extensive background in rugby coaching.

Going into the season with a roster of experienced and rookie players, this team is working towards developing a strong rugby culture that promotes all the qualities needed to play the game.

FIRST HOME GAME:
Sunday, Sept. 25, 11:30 a.m. against James Bay Athletic @ MacDonald Park.

SHARON HALL PHOTOS

In their first game as a Vikes team, the women's rugby squad fell to the Velox Vallhallians 42-0.

Above: Valhallians push for a try.
Below: The Valhallian kicker secures an extra two points.

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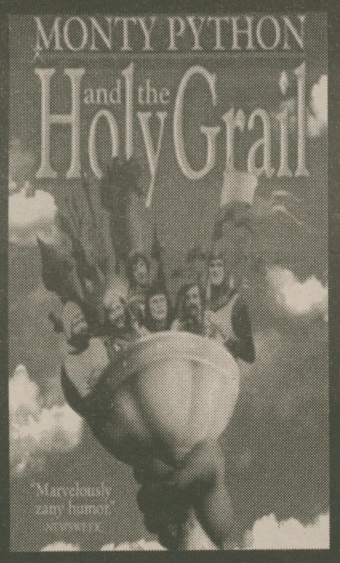

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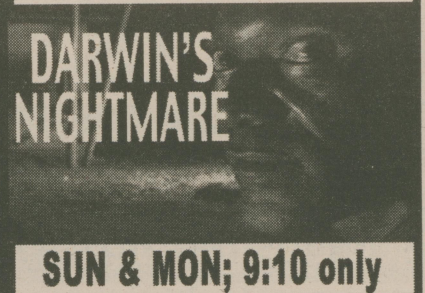

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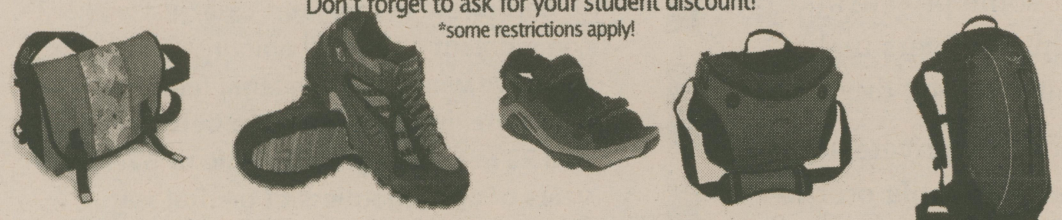
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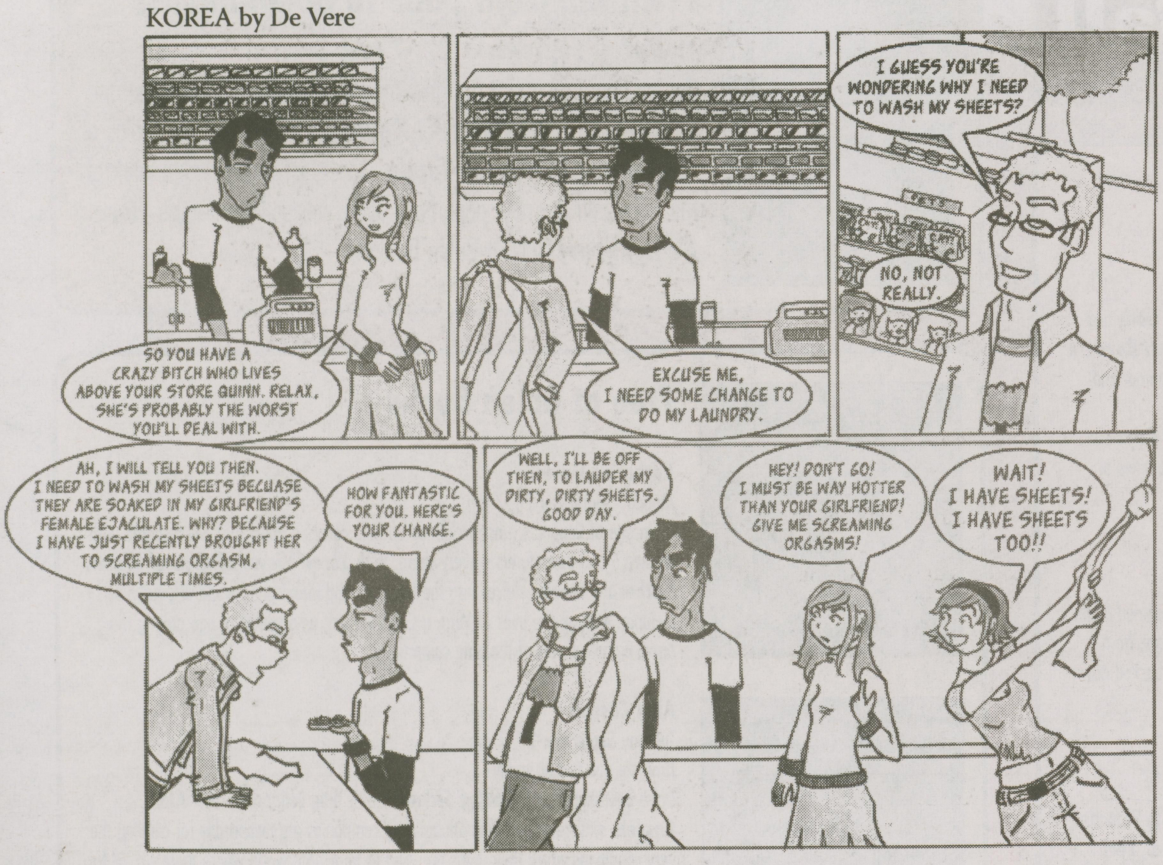
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WAIT! I HAVE SHEETS! I HAVE SHEETS TOO!!

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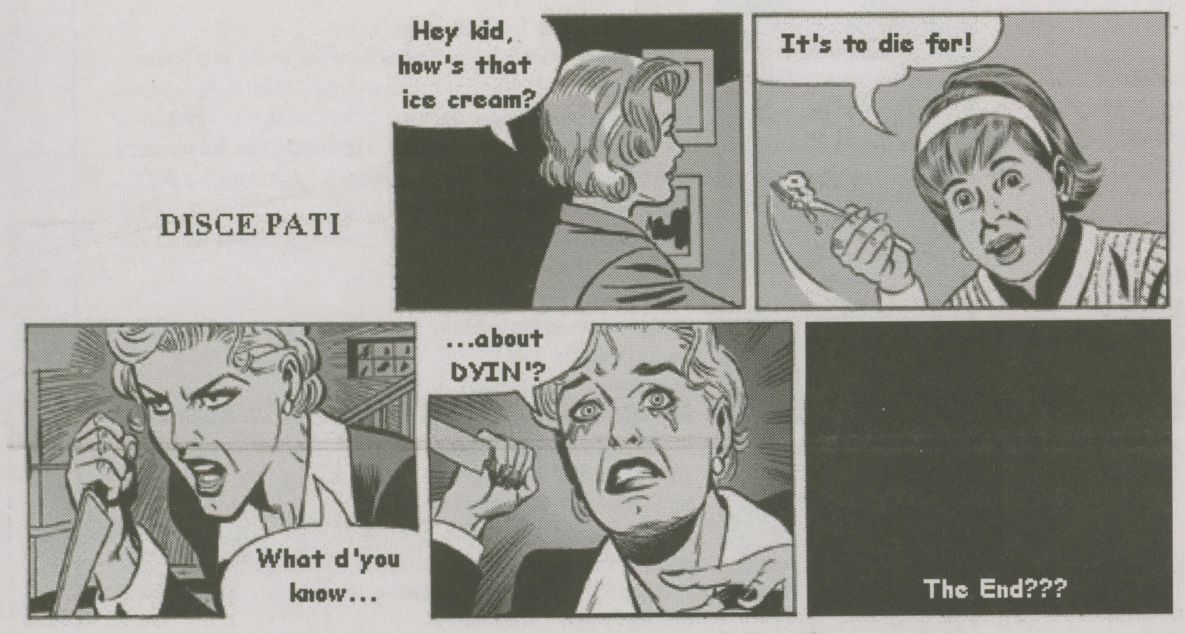

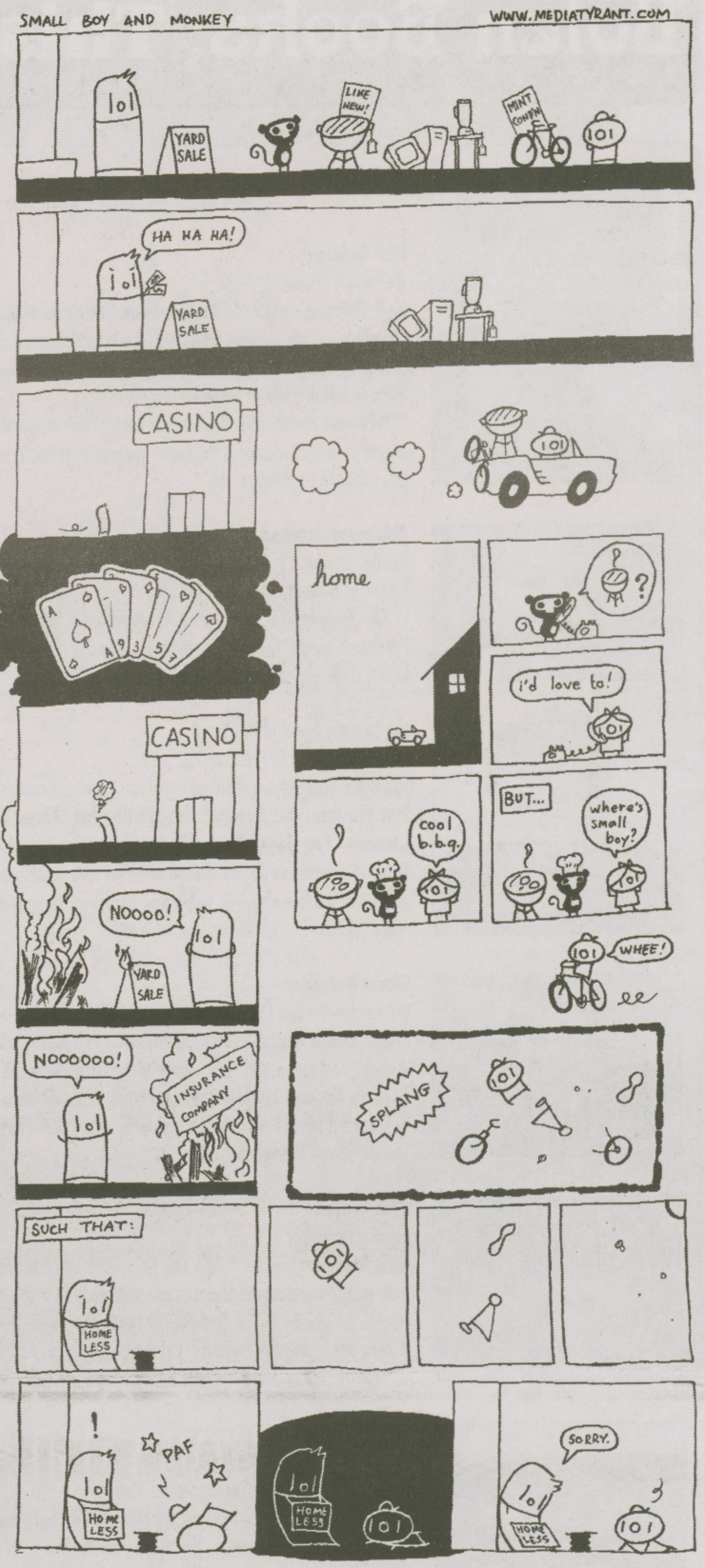

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VOLUNTEERS WANTED

Now accepting applications for the SART team at the Women's Sexual Assault Centre. Volunteers in this position provide support and information to survivors of sexual violence. Applicants must be able to commit to 3 shifts/month for one year and possess strong problem solving skills, be reliable, respectful and good communicators. Training begins September 27th. If you are interested, call for an application package: Beth Kope, Coordinator of Volunteers. Phone 383-5545
Email volunteers@vwsac.com

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Mentor a student in an elementary school 1 hour/week. Play games, sports, cook, read, do arts and crafts and other fun activities. Call Big Brothers Big Sisters at 475-1117 bonnie@bbbsvictoria.com.

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Seize the moment - new skills, new friends, and new opportunities - Volunteer with us. NEED Crisis and Information Line. Training group starting Oct 1st.
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The BC Cancer Agency - Vancouver Island Centre is currently recruiting volunteers for Patient Support positions and for their busy TeaLC Café. Shifts are 3 and 4 hour, once a week. If you are interested in volunteering in this rewarding environment and are available to help out during a weekday, please contact Volunteer Services at 519-5500 ext 3747.

ON CAMPUS

IBM is recruiting upcoming Business, Computer Science and Engineering grads! Come to an information session to find out more: Tuesday, September 27th, 2005 from 5:30pm - 7:30pm in Elliott 167. For more information visit
www.careerservices.uvic.ca.

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part to reduce greenhouse gas emissions! www.co2zilla.ca or www.www.climatechange.gc.ca For more info on how you can reduce greenhouse gasses affecting climate change, contact the University of Victoria Sustainability Project at 721-7355 or uvsp@uvic.ca

SERVICES/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rally to oppose the occupation of Iraq and support US military resisters in Canada. Speakers: Counsellor Denise Savoie, Joshua Key (US war resister), and others from labour and student groups. Saturday September 24th 12 noon Centennial Square. Info 385-3934.

On Sept. 25, 2005 the Victoria Chapter of the ALS Society is proud to present the 3rd Annual **Walk For ALS.** We are raising awareness and funds to help support national research and local client services.

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Got a song in your heart? Sign up for Victoria Idol this month and prepare for stardom. Forty amateur Vancouver Island singers of all ages will be selected for a series of playoffs leading to the big event Jan. 21 at Alix Goolden Hall. Grand prize: A studio-produced recording of the winning song – a $3000 value. The top 10 finalists in this fundraiser for PEERS Victoria will also perform on television. Big-name judges, great prizes, fun and a good cause to boot – what are you waiting for? Application forms and information on-line at www.VictoriaIdol.com, or by calling 388-5350. Deadline for entries: Oct. 5.

Get your life back! ARTHRITIS SELF MANAGEMENT 6 week, 2 hour/week program at Gordon Head Rec. Centre, Oct 17 – Nov 21, 1:00-3:00. $25 includes manual. Spouse/caregiver $10. Registration: 475-7100.

The Punjab Unhiversity, CHANDI GARH (U.T.) INDIA has been designated by the Ministry of Advanced Education British Columbia. If you are interested to obtain education at the PUNJAB UNIVERSITY CHANDI GARH you can get a student loan from the B.C. Ministry of Advanced Education. For more information you can contact: mtatla@uvic.ca

"Introduction to Secular/Humanistic Judaism." Sunday, September 18th - October 9 - 7:00 - 9:00 pm The Victoria Society for Humanistic Judaism is presenting a four week course that will explore some of the history and philosophy of secular/humanistic Judaism, including a non-traditional celebration of the Jewish High Holidays. The course will be led by Sharon Kobrinsky, Ceremonial Leader, who will be joined by other members of VSHJ. Resource material will include: "Judaism Beyond God" by Rabbi Sherwin Wine and "God Optional Judaism" by Rabbi Judith Seid. For further information and registration, please contact Sharon Kobrinsky, 474-7173. Fee for non-members, $25. Everyone is welcome.

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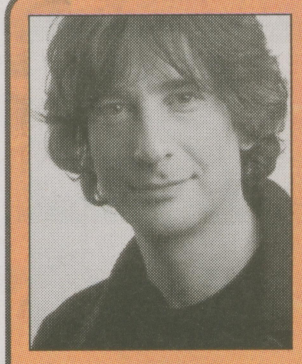
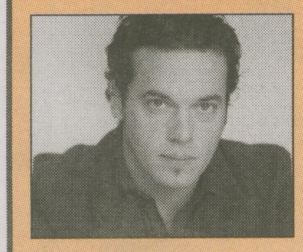


Neil Gaiman
Wednesday October 5, 7:30 pm
Neil Gaiman, creator of ***The Sandman***, and author of ***American Gods*** and ***Coraline***, returns to Bolen Books with a spectacular new novel. ***Anansi Boys*** is a delirious rush into fantasy and wild imagination, deftly balancing rich humour and tragic pathos in a tale of wayward children of Gods.
*** **Please note** - while Mr. Gaiman will sign any copies of ***Anansi Boys*** purchased at Bolen Books or at the event, we reserve the right to limit quantities of other titles to be autographed.

Margaret Atwood
Tuesday October 11, 7:30 pm
Join us as a literary icon offers her take on one of the world's most esteemed myths. In ***The Penelopiad***, **Margaret Atwood** retells Homer's The Odyssey, from Penelope's perspective. It's a daring feat, from a writer who has never backed down from a challenge, and whose work has never failed to thrill.



The Literary Event of the Year
Monday October 17, 7:30 pm
Join Bolen Books as we welcome a five star panel of literary superstars to Victoria. **Tim Winton** (***The Turning***), **Joseph Boyden** (***Three Day Road***), **Lori Lansens** (***The Girls***), **Michael Crummey** (**The Wreckage**) and **Camilla Gibb** (***Sweetness in the Belly***) will offer their insights into a variety of literary topics during a free-wheeling, moderated discussion, along with readings from their new books. Don't miss this unforgettable night!

Diana Gabaldon
Wednesday October 19, 7:30 pm
At last! **Diana Gabaldon** returns to Victoria with ***A Breath of Snow and Ashes***, the long-awaited sixth volume in the Outlander saga! Set against the build-up to the American Revolution, the new novel continues the story of eighteenth century Scotsman Jamie Fraser and his twentieth century wife Claire. Gabaldon fans, this is the one you've been waiting for!

Rick Steves
Tuesday November 8, 7 pm
Rick Steves returns to Victoria with his insights into European travel for even the most budget-conscious traveller. It's never too early to start planning your trip, and a copy of the new edition of ***Europe Through the Back Door*** and a Rick Steves' seminar are essential in creating a trip that's memorable for all the right reasons.
*** **Please note** early start time for this event.

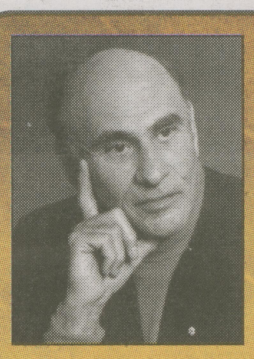
William Sampson
Tuesday November 22, 7:30 pm
In late 2000, **William Sampson** was kidnapped in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, spending two and a half years in brutally custody before finally being released. In Confessions of An Innocent Man, Sampson tells his story for the first time. Angry, intelligent and compelling, Confessions of An Innocent Man is a scathing indictment and expose of Western policy in the Middle East.

Lynne Truss
Wednesday November 23, 7:30 pm
From the author of the international mega-seller ***Eats, Shoots and Leaves*** comes a funny and frantic inquiry into a modern plague which threatens us all: rudeness. In Talk to the Hand, **Lynne Truss**, who taught us all to mind our punctuation, turns her attention to manners and "the bloody rudeness of the world today".
Details for this event were being finalized at press time. Please check in-store for further information, including venue.

George RR Martin
Thursday January 12, 7:30 pm
A Feast For Crows by **George RR Martin** is one of the most keenly anticipated novels of the year, and as of November 8, it's here. But it gets better: we are pleased to welcome George **RR Martin** back to Victoria. His ***A Song of Ice And Fire*** series is a modern classic in the fantasy genre, and Martin's name is used in the same circles as JRR Tolkien.

Unless otherwise noted, these events are at the Alix Goolden Performance Hall, 907 Pandora Avenue. Tickets are $10 each, available now at Bolen Books -- cash or cheque only for tickets, please! We expect these events to sell out -- please purchase your tickets early to avoid disappointment. Each ticket allows a $5 discount from the cover price of the featured title for that event -- see in-store for more information. ($5 discount does not apply to A Breath of Snow and Ashes or other previously discounted titles.)

Plus: Pick up our fall flyer at Bolen Books starting this Saturday for more information on all of these events and more, including **Jack Whyte, Karen Connelly, Michael Slade, William Deverell, Robert Bateman, Arthur Black, Don McKay and many others!**

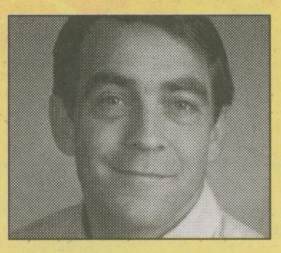


From the front page to Bolen Books!

Thursday September 22, 7 pm!
You've heard all about it - now read it for yourself! Journalist and prize-winning writer **Peter C. Newman** will be signing copies of ***The Secret Mulroney Tapes*** - the most controversial book of the fall - and the new paperback of his bestselling memoir ***Here Be Dragons!*** Only at Bolen Books!

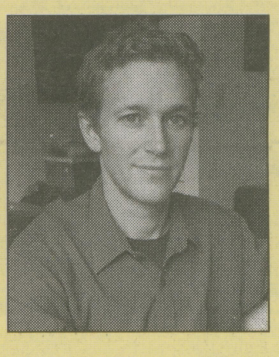
Free at Bolen Books

Katherine Govier
Monday September 26, 7 pm
From one of Canada's most acclaimed authors comes a novel that will resonate with women - and adventurers - everywhere. With ***Three Views of Crystal Water***, **Katherine Govier** delves into the terrifying and intoxicating world of pearl divers in Japan through the eyes of Vera, a Canadian girl, who comes of age among the brave women divers of the ama community.



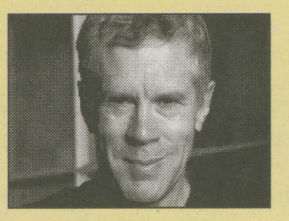
Alan Cassels
Tuesday September 27, 7 pm
How are you feeling today?
In his bestselling book ***Selling Sickness*** UVic drug policy researcher **Alan Cassels** explores how multinational drug companies are responsible for creating the very conditions which their drugs are used to treat. In a world where there's a pill for everything, where drug companies finance medical testing and research, and doctors are the recipients of perks and bonuses, who is looking out for us, the patients?

David Bergen, Lisa Moore, Jaclyn Moriarty
Monday October 3, 7 pm
The best in new fiction from three incredible writers!
David Bergen returns with ***The Time In Between***, a novel set in Vietnam about one family, two cultures and a profound journey in search of elusive answers. **Lisa Moore**, whose collection ***Open*** was shortlisted for the Giller Prize, turns to longer fiction with her first novel ***Alligator***, a kaleidescopic work that explores the relationships of a broad spectrum of contemporary St. John's. ***I Have a Bed Made of Buttermilk Pancakes***, the first adult novel from noted YA author **Jaclyn Moriarty,** is a delightful melange: part grown-up fairy-tale, part suburban mystery.

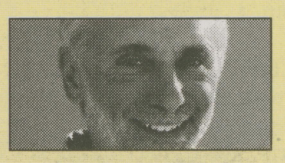


JB McKinnon and Bruce Kirkby
Monday October 24, 7 pm
An evening of true-life adventure!
Former editor of Monday Magazine, prize-winning journalist **J.B. MacKinnon** searches for the truth about his uncle's murder in the Dominican Republic in the harrowing ***Dead Man in Paradise***. An unforgettable journey into the heart of darkness, it is one of the best books of the fall!
Bruce Kirkby quit his engineering job to cycle the Karakoram Highway in Northern Pakistan. From gunfights and crocodile attacks to his rescue of a fallen sherpa on Everest, to Kirkby's life is on thrilling display in ***The Dolphin's Tooth*** - a dream come true for every armchair traveller!

Jean Beliveau
Saturday November 5, 3 pm
With an introduction by Wayne Gretzky, ***My Life in Hockey*** is **Jean Beliveau's** celebrated memoir, now updated from his time on the ice to his struggles with cancer and his views on hockey today. Don't miss your opportunity to meet Jean Beliveau. (autographing only)

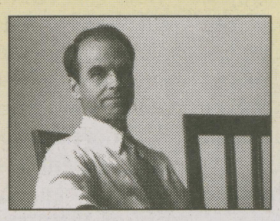


Stuart McLean
Sunday November 6, 2 pm
Meet Canada's favourite storyteller!
This fall **Stuart McLean** is taking a break from his Vinyl Cafe radio show to make a special visit to Bolen Books! The occasion? The publication of a special hardcover edition of ***Dave Cooks the Turkey***, one of his best-loved stories. Stuart McLean, only at Bolen Books! (autographing only)



Jay Ingram
Sunday November 6 at 7 pm
How does the mind work? **Jay Ingram,** one of Canada's most renowned science broadcasters and bestselling author, takes readers on his most challenging and controversial journeys yet: a look at the very nature of consciousness.

Kevin Chong
Monday November 7 at 7 pm
Facing his thirtieth birthday, Vancouver writer **Kevin Chong** set off on an epic road-trip in search of his boyhood idol Neil Young. ***Neil Young Nation*** follows Chong from Winnipeg to Los Angeles as he traces Young's path to superstardom.



Scott Turow
Monday November 14 at 7 pm
From one of the bestselling authors of all time comes a breathtaking story of courage, betrayal, passion and the secrets that the past seeks to hide. **Scott Turow,** author of ***Presumed Innocnet and Reversible Errors***, visits Victoria for the first time to talk about ***Ordinary Heroes***, a story of war and remembrance, secrets and revelation.

Along the 4, 27, and 28 bus routes
Bolen Books in Hillside Centre
595-4232